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NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

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INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

FATAH INTELLIGENCE CHIEF DISCUSSES CURRENT SITUATION

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 18 Oct 81 p 9

[Interview with Abu al-Za'im 'Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah, Chief of Palestinian Military Intelligence in Beirut; Date of interview not specified: "Abu al-Za'im, Chief of Palestinian Military Intelligence Tells AL-RIYAD, 'Fahd's Peace Plan Is the Best Plan That Has Been Offered so Far; Our Agreements with Fellow Officials in the Kingdom Stem from Our Faith in the Major Role the Kingdom Is Playing To Support the Palestinian Question; The U.S.-Zionist Alliance Involved the United States Directly in Zionist Strategy and Not Vice Versa"]

[Text] Mr Abu al-Za'im 'Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah, chief of Palestinian military intelligence and member of the Revolutionary Council of Fatah described Fahd's peace plan which was proposed by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz as the best plan that has been offered so far for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

In an interview he granted AL-RIYAD Brother Abu al-Za'im characterized Palestinian presence in Lebanon as a presence that was not based on excesses.

He added, "The Palestinian Revolution never thought that its strategy would one day be based on internal Arab struggles." He said that putting the Lebanese accord into practice and bringing an end to the fighting among the Lebanese brothers would be the greatest service that can be rendered to the Palestinian question.

In the course of the comments he made on the outbreaks [that occurred] in some areas of Lebanon Brother Abu al-Za'im said, "Whether one is an official or an ordinary citizen, one is saddened and hurt by what takes place on the Lebanese scene every now and then. It was evident that the target of these outbreaks were the nationalist areas in Lebanon. These outbreaks reaffirmed the bloodthirsty and evil spirit of the murderer Begin, the main figure in the Dayr Yasin massacre." The chief of Palestinian military intelligence added, "The suspect statements that were issued by a few Zionist propaganda agencies and their allies regarding the so-called Organization for Liberating Lebanon from Foreigners were intended

to make the Resistance and the National Movement react with similar outbreaks in the opposite areas. However, we did not agree to having innocent citizens exposed to harm as a result of the paranoia and the evil, suspect alliances of their leaders."

The full text of the interview follows.

[Question] Resistance circles have often talked about the subject of an Israeli invasion that was called "the accordion" operation. Do you still believe that, especially since there is information to the effect that the Zionist enemy will invade south Lebanon in the near future?

[Answer] The Zionist attack on Arab land and on Arab people is an ongoing process and an uninterrupted sequence no matter how Israel may try to show itself to be one time in a truce and another time in a cease fire with this or the other state. As far as the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Revolution are concerned, Israel has not stopped for one day proclaiming that it has the full right to attack the locations of the revolution in Lebanon on land, at sea and from the air. Israel has also claimed that it has the right to attack the Lebanese and the Palestinian people.

What was meant by the "accordion" operation was an Israeli operation that would be accompanied by isolated attacks which would be carried out by the so-called Lebanese forces inside the country. Through the efforts of the Arab Follow-Up Committee it seems that this operation is no longer expected, at least, not at the present time.

But a broad or limited Zionist aggression is always expected and is always on our minds because we know the considerable significance this revolution has for the Zionist enemy who knows quite well that the continuation and growth of the revolution will ultimately terminate his existence.

[Question] Discussions among observers indicate that current events are causing some concern for the opposition because if an accord is reached, that accord will require that Palestinians be restrained to prevent excesses. What do you think of that?

[Answer] Palestinian presence is not based on excesses; it is rather based on mobilizing all the efforts of the Palestinian people and all the energies of Arabs that can be mobilized and dedicating them to the battle. The Palestinian Revolution does not, did not and never will consider the notion that its strategy can one day be based on internal Arab struggles. On the contrary the Palestinian Revolution considers every drop of blood that is shed or every bullet that is fired outside the battle with the Zionist enemy to be a loss for the Arab nation in general and for the Palestinian Revolution in particular. [Establishing] Lebanese accord and bringing an end to the fighting among the Lebanese brothers would be the greatest service to the Palestinian question. Although the Palestinian Revolution has had experiences we wish we did not have to have--and [we are referring to] the fighting with some Arab brothers--the Palestinian Revolution regards the abyss of murderous, spurious deeds to be the product of

imperialist and Zionist conspiracies whose objective is to impede the Palestinian Revolution; attempt to distract it from its principal objective of liberating Palestinian territory; fragment its efforts; and undermine its ability to continue the battle for liberation.

We support every Lebanese accord. Recent years have established that we were actually engaged in a serious effort to end the internal struggles. This does not mean at all that we consider the Lebanese National Forces to be only a principal ally of the Palestinian Revolution, but we do want this alliance to become stronger and to grow in the face of the Zionist enemy.

[Question] Some people have commented on the outbreaks that are taking place in the nationalist areas by saying that these outbreaks were disciplinary operations for the nationalist forces because they stood alongside the Resistance. What do you say to that?

[Answer] Whether one is an official or an ordinary citizen one is hurt by what happens every now and then on the Lebanese scene. Zionist forces and the forces that are allied with them have insisted on not letting the citizens of this country have a moment of peace and stability. It was evident that these outbreaks had targeted the nationalist areas in Lebanon, and this indicates that those who are behind this horrible murderous conspiracy are the enemies of the national Lebanese and Palestinian rank. It reaffirms, after the air bombing of Beirut and the tremendous losses that were inflicted on the ranks of Lebanese and Palestinian nationalists, especially defenseless old people and children, that the murderer Begin harbors a murderous and an evil spirit. He was the main figure in the Dayr Yasin massacre; he was the chief of the Irgun terrorist gang in the past; and he is the man who is responsible for the official and organized Zionist terror [that is being practiced] at this stage. Begin has not been satisfied, and his thirst for the blood of Palestinian and Lebanese nationalists was not quenched with the bombing of Beirut. It seems that this operation has created for him international repercussions and complications that have become evident. Begin had said more than once that he will punish Lebanese nationalists for supporting and helping the Palestinian Revolution. But our Lebanese people, who have borne these blows for their sincerity, proved that they were bigger than their wounds and that they were continuing their support for the Palestinian Revolution until victory and liberation [are achieved].

The suspect statements that were made by some Zionist propaganda agencies and their allies about the so-called Organization for Liberating Lebanon from Foreigners were intended to make the Resistance and the National Movement respond with similar outbreaks in the opposite areas in Lebanon. But the Revolution and the National Movement did not agree to having innocent citizens exposed to harm as a result of the paranoia and the evil, suspect and hostile alliances of their leaders. We thus thwarted the implementation of the Zionist plan, which was allied with some well-known forces, and its attempt to effect another outbreak of the situation in Lebanon and foil the role of the Arab Follow-Up Committee.

[Question] What are the effects of the strategic cooperation agreement between the Zionist entity and the United States on the question of the region?

[Answer] There was no doubt in the past that Israel relied on the United States [for everything], from a loaf of bread to the modern F-15 and F-16 airplanes. There is not one Arab in this vast Arab nation who believed once, even in error, that Israel had achieved the power it did achieve on the strength of the Jews and the vitality of Zionism. It was the United States that made Israel achieve this measure of destructive military might. Whether that cooperation is declared, as it was during Begin's recent visit to the United States and his meeting with the U.S. president, or whether it remains undeclared as it was in the past, nothing in the reality of U.S. support for Israel has changed. What is new in the matter is the fact that this alliance does not only mean that aid is being offered to Israel in all areas as was the case in the past; this agreement involves the United States directly in an alliance with Israel and makes it a principal party on Israel's side in Israel's hostility to the Arab nation. This agreement also involves the United States into the scheme of Zionist strategy and not vice versa. This alliance makes the United States directly responsible for any attack carried out by Israel on any Arab party. This cooperation was condemned officially by officials in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, by many leaders of Arab countries and by leaders of the PLO.

[Question] What is your view of the peace plan that was declared by His Highness Prince Fahd, the crown prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] We have become accustomed to find in Saudi Arabia, in the administration of His Highness King Faysal, the martyr of Jerusalem, and after him in the administration of His Highness King Khalid, sincere, honest and responsible positions on the Palestinian question. As described by Brother Abu 'Ammar the plan by His Highness Prince Fahd offers a proper background. It is the best plan that has been offered so far for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East. The establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital is a pan-Arab and a national goal which no Palestinian can give up.

[Question] What is the intention behind the lenient policy of Sharon, the Zionist minister of defense, especially, as you know, now that the autonomy talks between Egypt and Israel have begun?

[Answer] First of all, Sharon has not adopted a lenient policy. He does not have a lenient policy these days as the enemy's minister of defense; he did not have a lenient policy when he was an extremist general in his wars with the Arab nation; nor did he have a lenient policy as minister of agriculture when he converted his ignoble settlement plan into hundreds of settlements that were established on our Palestinian land in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip or on our Arab land in Sinai and the Golan. The attempt to embellish Sharon's ugly face is cheap, naive and stupid. There are numerous daily telltale signs about this enemy, about his Fascism, his terrorism and the ambitions he has entertained incessantly in our land and our

homeland. Zionist, imperialist settlements are still there on our Arab land, and they are continuing to increase despite protests by the whole world and despite the fact that the world has condemned this immoral act which violates all laws. One adds to that the orphans and widows of our Arab people and particularly our Palestinian people.

The enemy believes that he can fool our people in the occupied land or deceive world public opinion with this foolish policy. Our people will accept nothing but the liberation of their land, and the world will accept nothing but the establishment of an independent Palestinian state from which the hateful Zionist occupation is permanently removed.

[Question] Many opposition leaders have declared in statements they made that they intended to acquire advanced kinds of weapons to confront the Zionist enemy. Have you succeeded in acquiring such weapons?

[Answer] We realize that [the task of] opposing this enemy who has an internal war machine cannot continue to be confined to the limited military means that are available to us. Reading an evaluation of the enemy that was made by many of his leaders of the last war affirms that if the Palestinian Resistance had the real weapons with which [its forces] could embark on broad offensive battles, the military effort between us and the enemy would have assumed a different appearance. Our fighters and our revolutionaries proved that with the simple and limited means that were available to them, they were able to break the guise of this enemy, shed his blood, cause many of his settlers to emigrate and hold funerals in his settlements. Ownership of advanced, effective weapons is one of our national and pan-Arab goals. Along with our Arab brothers and our friends in the world we will continue to strive to acquire effective and advanced weapons.

[Question] What is your reaction to the visit to Saudi Arabia by French President Mitterand? How do you view the role that France may play in solving the crisis of the area?

[Answer] The French position on the Palestinian question still needs considerable clarification. There is no doubt that France, with the prestige it enjoys in the Arab community can influence the course of events if it were to take a sincere stance with the legitimate rights of our Palestinian people. It is clear that our Palestinian people have the right to determine their own destiny, the right to establish their independent state on their national soil and the right to gain immediate recognition for the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. As far as the visit is concerned, we believe that politics in this day and age is a matter of mutual interests. We are hoping that the leaders of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will not miss the opportunity to ask the European countries, chief among which are France, Britain and West Germany, to assume a fair, honest and truthful stance on the rights the Palestinian people have to their land and their homeland and their right to determine their own destiny and establish their independent state on their national soil. France and other European countries have considerable and significant interests in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Palestinian question is

likewise at the forefront of Arab interests. We are all confident that Saudi leaders have placed this subject at the forefront of the subjects that have been discussed and are being discussed with any western official.

[Question] It is known that you accompanied Mr Yasir 'Arafat in his recent visit to the kingdom. Did you meet with Saudi leaders during that visit? What was the nature of that visit?

[Answer] That visit to Saudi Arabia was made at the invitation of the Islamic World League. We were invited to attend a session of the General Constituent Assembly of this league which represents in our opinion the first organization to unify the Islamic peoples in all the corners of the earth. Brother Abu 'Ammar was quite interested in accepting this invitation to address a select group of distinguished Muslim scholars from all over the globe.

The visit began Thursday night and ended at noon last Friday. There was a 3-hour meeting with the brothers in the Islamic World League during that visit. Then we performed the rituals of the small pilgrimage and the Friday prayer in the Holy Mosque in Mecca, and then we had lunch, which was hosted by His Eminence the Venerable al-Shaykh 'Abd-al-'Aziz ibn Baz, president of the Constituent Assembly of the Islamic World League.

The visit was positive and fruitful, and it established that Muslims in all the corners of the globe sympathized with the Palestinian Revolution and with the question of Palestine, especially since the Zionist enemy has been occupying the primary shrine of Islam, al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, which is considered by Muslims everywhere in the world to be the first of the two directions to which Muslims turn in praying and the third holy shrine of Islam. We did not have any political meetings with brothers and officials because we were short on time. You know as well as everybody does that our meetings with fellow officials in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia stem from our faith in the major role the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is playing to provide all the means of material and moral support for the Palestinian cause. Our meetings with Saudi officials stem from the firm relationship that links PLO leaders with fellow Saudis. These meetings have always taken place when the situation called for them.

[Question] It is known that you have an Israeli prisoner. How far have communications with the Red Cross gone, and what about efforts that have been made for his exchange?

[Answer] This is not the first prisoner, nor will he be the last prisoner that our forces will hold. But the furor that has been raised was an attempt by the enemy's leaders as usual to deny [the fact that we were holding a prisoner]. They were then compelled to admit that we had a prisoner after they were confronted with all the incontrovertible evidence, chief among which was the presence of the prisoner and the statement he made in Hebrew to his people [which was broadcast] on our radio. The Red Cross has ascertained his existence. The existence of this prisoner indicates to us that we have made a very significant impression on the enemy.

The enemy tried to confound this issue to minimize the importance of the prisoner in our view, but after we conducted an investigation with him and after the Red Cross confirmed that we had him, the enemy was forced to acknowledge him and to ask that he be exchanged. This matter is still the subject of debate between us and the International Red Cross. As you know on the basis of the tolerant spirit of Islam we are treating this and other prisoners well and not the way the enemy treats our prisoners. We also allow him to receive letters and gifts from his family through the International Red Cross.

The First Published Copies of the Letters Exchanged between the Zionist Prisoner and His Family inside the Occupied Land

"Greetings to Moti (nickname for Mordechai). How are you? I hope you are well. The family here is OK, but we are worried about you. Father, Mother and everybody sends greetings. Your brother who loves you, Moshe. 26 July 1981 Tel Aviv.

"Sent by Moshe Dror ; Address: (Nani Lishono) No 15; District or area: Ramat Gan, Israel. Addressee: Mordechai Dror."

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SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN CRITIQUED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 28 Dec 81 pp 3, 5

[Article by Mushahid Hussain: "Red Star"]

[Text]

JUST two days before his 75th birthday and nearly two years after he ordered the Red Army into Afghanistan, Leonid Brezhnev received the occupied country's highest decoration, the 'Sun of Freedom' order. Giving an Afghan medal extolling freedom is like awarding solidarity leader Lech Wałęsa with a decoration for disciplined trade unionism! Such ironies abound in international relations where morality and political realities are mutually exclusive. After all, Dr. Henry Kissinger and Menachem Begin are past winners of the Nobel Peace Prize! Two years after the Soviet Union, with 85,000 troops, invaded its small, southern neighbour, Afghanistan, the situation has all the makings of a quagmire, with no light, red or green, at the end of the tunnel. The Soviet invasion, combining masterly deception (telling Hafizullah Amin that the Red Army was coming to help him!) and surgical precision (achieving liquidation of Amin and installation of Karmal with minimum casualties), has not been able to match its initial success with subsequent consolidation.

Three important failure of the Soviet intervention figure prominently to highlight what has become the Kremlin's biggest Third World bungle in recent years. The Kabul regime still has a narrow support base and Babrak Karmal lacks legitimacy because of his role and status as an Afghan quisling, propped up by Soviet tanks. The Khalq-Parcham conflict remains intact, with the incessant infighting and feuding resembling more a 'High Noon' style duel right out of a B-rate Hollywood Western than a contradiction among mature Marxists. This was probably a factor prompting the Soviet action and preventing its later consolidation. Lastly, the resistance to the Soviet occupation continues unabated. Apart from occasional outbursts in urban centres, there are regular defections of senior officials of the Kabul regime. While an apparently low-level guerrillas armed struggle continues to harass the Afghan army, the guerrillas are now better-trained and equipped with more sophisticated weaponry. But this is not enough to alter the post - December 1979 status quo. The one significant change that has taken place in regard to Afghanistan within the last one year has been on the diplomatic front.

Whatever possibilities there existed for the regional States (Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan) to arrive at a peaceful compromise have been foreclosed and this matter will now be 'settled' at the level of both superpowers. This is unfortunate since superpower involvement in

the troubled region will deepen, with the freedom of action of aligned regional States more limited.

Related to this is the Pakistan-American five year deal worth \$3.2 billion, plus \$1.1 billion in additional arms purchases. Like long-lost lovers, Pakistan and the United States have recently rediscovered their mutual desire for political intimacy despite the divergence of interests on several key issues. Serious efforts seem to have been made from both sides for a political compromise mainly from September 1980 through January 1981, when the Reagan Administration took office and floated its 'strategic consensus' idea.

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary's September 1980 visit to Moscow was followed a month later by a meeting in New York between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and Mr. Agha Shahi. It was at these parleys that an invitation was extended to the Pakistan Foreign Minister to visit Moscow. Then in late December, 1980, the Soviet Union was said to be agreeable to provide guarantees to Pakistan regarding the latter's territorial integrity, plus the recognition of the Durand Line as the international frontier with Afghanistan.

The Kabul regime's August 24 proposals, which Pakistan initially welcomed as having "considerable flexibility", were, in fact, an improvement over its May 24, 1980 announcement. There was no precondition (like "recognition first, talk later" type of thing); talks could be held under U.N. auspices (as insisted by Pakistan all along) and now Kabul was willing to have tripartite talks (Pakistan plus Iran) rather than its old stand of separate, bilateral negotiations.

Interestingly, while chances of a regional settlement have been squandered, the probability of a superpower deal has correspondingly increased. Such a modern-day Yalta would be guided by two considerations:

- U.S. recognition of Moscow's 'vital interests' in Afghanistan and USSR acceptance of Washington's primacy in the Gulf.

- Since the area is of such deep concern to the superpower, its current state of instability makes it "too hot to handle", thereby necessitating moves to defuse tensions with a view to promoting their interests. Veiled hints of a 'new Yalta' have emerged from both sides. According to a report in *The New York Times* (August 7, 1981), the State Department sent a message to their Soviet counterparts designed to "convey an under-

standing of the Russian concerns in Afghanistan, a willingness to discuss internal political compromises there, and a sense of the importance of the Afghanistan issue to future Soviet-American relations". A linkage was also sought to be established between Afghanistan and progress at the Geneva disarmament talks.

In the speech at the 26th Communist Party Congress in Moscow on February 23, 1981, Leonid Brezhnev made two significant references to Afghanistan in characteristically vague Soviet fashion. These referred to the motivation for the Soviet action and possible means to resolve the issue. Although there was no change in the stated Soviet position on talks and withdrawal, Mr. Brezhnev said the situation in Afghanistan "had posed a direct threat to the security of our southern frontier and compelled the USSR to render military aid". Regarding the future, he added that the Soviet Union did "not object to discussing the problems related to Afghanistan together with problems of security in the Persian Gulf". Whatever might have been the motivation (although Soviet conduct subsequent to the invasion tends to support Brezhnev's contention), the hard fact is that this move by Moscow was not just a needless blunder, but also wrong on all counts. Ideologically, the attempt to transplant the Red Army's East European 'tank socialism' into the tribal context of Afghanistan has been an unmitigated disaster. As Tariq Ali rightly put it in a recent article: "It (the USSR move) violated the rights of the people of Afghanistan to determine their own future. Even if such a future is initially hostile to socialist advance, it is far better that the masses learn their own lessons through their own experience. Short cuts and substitutions either through local military coups or through the technically superior military presence of the

Soviet armed forces can only be counterproductive in terms of mass consciousness".

Politically, the Soviet intervention contributed to reviving the Cold War and provided the West with the opportunity to blast Moscow with bleeding-heart rhetoric for the "Muslims of Afghanistan" (the Muslims in Palestine, Eritrea, Ogaden, the Philippines, Thailand, not being sufficiently oppressed to warrant such righteous concern!).

Even strategically, in this age of push-button missiles, airborne landings and naval power, any strategic piece of real-estate, while undoubtedly useful, can only have marginal value in a direct super-

power military confrontation. A political settlement will now have to await a superpower summit. One proposal which was conceptually sound but with serious flaws in its operative aspects, received less attention than it deserved. This was the Iranian peace plan on Afghanistan which saw the question as essentially an Islamic issue and precluded the possibility of Western involvement in the event of a Soviet withdrawal. For the future, policy-makers in the region need to take four factors into consideration which are an incentive towards opting for a political settlement. First, there is the post-invasion Soviet behaviour. It is more in the form of a repentant sinner than a 'big bad bully'. Its attitude towards Pakistan is instructive in providing a comparative picture of contrasting superpower behaviour in similar situations. The Soviet Union has skillfully managed to separate its political contradiction from economic collaboration in its bilateral ties with Pakistan. There was a 25 per cent increase in bilateral trade and the Soviet Ambassador went about offering nuclear power plants and other assistance to Pakistan. Additionally, Soviet delegations arrived for inauguration of such Moscow-aided projects as the Guddu Thermal Station and the Karachi Steel Mills. This "business-as-usual" attitude was further underlined by the Soviet USSR Deputy Foreign Minister, Nikolai Firyubin's visit. Even Selig Harrison in his policy-oriented study on Baluchistan has unambiguously stated Moscow's apparent unwillingness to "play the Baluch card", to date at least.

Second, if the Khalq-Parcham conflict has not healed neither has the infighting of the Afghan guerrillas lessened. The leading French authority on Third World armed struggles, Gerard Chaliand, says that "in its leadership, organisation and co-ordination, the Afghan movement is one of the weakest" in the world. He adds that "the most serious weakness of the Afghan resistance is its lack decisive leadership. It has no modern leaders capable of organising and co-ordinating the movement or creating a political hierarchy that could rival that of the government. The resistance movement is a traditionalist revolt, not an expression of popular demand for economic and social change". In a recent statement, the Westernised 'guerrilla' leader, Sayed Ahmad Gailani (always seen

in pin-stripe Saville Row three-piece outfits) called his co-fighters as 'terrorists', terming Western assistance to them as "neither understandable nor forgivable". Conversely, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, a more militant Afghan guerrilla chief, terms Gailani & Co. as "American Pirs".

Third, for those banking on it, there is the question of U.S. reliability since it is self-evident that there is no steadfast superpower commitment to principle. Two weeks before his death, Anwar Sadat mentioned the role of various parties in the Afghan insurgency, much to their embarrassment. In three somewhat similar situations, the United States egged on a particular group or country but then backed out completely as and when its interests shifted. It happened in the case of the Iraqi Kurds (1972-75), Angola (1975-76) and Somalia (1977-78). Of much relevance to present-day Afghanistan is the case of the Kurds. According to the Congressional Pike Report (U.S. Intelligence Agencies and Activities, 1975) what the Americans were aiming at "was not an outright victory by the Kurds over Baghdad, which would enable them to claim some form of independence - this would have been a grave embarrassment to Iran with its own large Kurdish minority - but to supply enough aid to give to Kurds a considerable nuisance value".

Finally, the burden of the refugees is creating a lot of difficulties for Pakistan. In time they could become a political factor and a force for socio-economic destabilisation. Some quarters have mooted the idea of separating the question of refugees from that of an overall political settlement, but that may create other complications, at least for the host country.

Afghanistan poses probably the most serious crisis for Pakistan since 1971 and if it is not resolved soon, it is bound to have ramifications on our national security and internal cohesion. Unfortunately, we have demonstrated a remarkable incapacity to learn lessons from history, preferring to live on a diet of illusions and rhetoric. For Pakistan, it is time external diversions gave way to internal consolidation. However distasteful one may find the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Pakistan in the 1980's cannot afford, nor should it aspire, to play the role of front man for American anti-Sovietism.

AFGHANISTAN

MUJAHIDIN LEADER INTERVIEWED ON UNITY WEEK

GF201135 Tehran International Service in Pashto 1315 GMT 16 Jan 82

[Recorded interview with Nader 'Ali Mahdavi, a leader of the Afghan Mujahidin, by an unidentified correspondent--date, place not given]

[Text] [Begin recording] Esteemed Mr Nader 'Ali Mahdavi, my first question to you is: As you are aware, some Saudi Arabian court muftis issued a proclamation yesterday morning stating that celebrating the anniversary of his holiness the prophet's birthday is not permitted in Islam. Kindly give us your views on this subject.

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Peace be upon Mohammad and his scion. This proclamation has no basis in Islam, but is based on political causes. It is only to the benefit of Islam's enemies.

[Question] What is your opinion of unity week?

[Answer] Unity week has greatly influenced the Islamic world even though it is in its preliminary stage at present. However, I am convinced that in the very near future it will achieve comprehensive results and success. Unity week not only brings Muslims together and strengthens their ties of Islamic brotherhood, but it also strengthens Islamic culture and develops education.

[Question] What is your opinion of the unification of Muslims?

[Answer] In my opinion I think that the differences between Shi'ite and Sunni brothers and their causes should be resolved in a free atmosphere. First of all, one should know what the basic differences between these two brothers are. For instance, there is no difference in worshiping the same one God, in believing the same one righteous prophet, in the one holy Koran and in the five pillars of Islam. So what are the points of difference? I believe that differences occur in the teaching of Islamic ideology in the schools, mosques, in public and in society. If these differences can be resolved, then the unity of Muslims is guaranteed. [End recording]

CSO: 4695/2

GOVERNMENT SPURS PLAN FULFILLMENT

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 3 Jan 82 p 2

[Editorial: "Initiative To Ensure Fulfillment of Plans"]

[Text]

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, since the victory of the Saur Revolution and its new phase, has always demonstrated its paramount urge to protect the interests of the toiling masses as well as the national wealth and property. Along with other constructive and comprehensive measures adopted by the DRA Government to accelerate the overall socio-economic development of the country and raise the living standards of the people, it has been attentive to the task of modernising and making more efficient the Government's administrative machinery.

Time and again, the Government has drawn the attention of the responsible party and Government members to the importance of carrying out their duties and obligations in accordance with the lofty objective of the revolution, which is service to

the people. This entails the need to safeguard the national property and ensure the smooth operation of the administrative units.

In order to ensure full implementation of the plans and programmes drawn up by the Government, it has tightened control over the handling of affairs by responsible party and Government members. All the Government organisations and units are required to submit their reports of activities and performance on a regular basis.

The Government has also taken the initiative of holding seminars with the participation of the concerned ministries and Government organisations, during which the performance and activities of each department and ministry are assessed and evaluated. Similarly, during these seminars, the attention of the responsible

officials is drawn to their duties and obligations and the shortcomings, if any, are discussed and ways sought to overcome them.

Only during very recent days, two such important seminars were held to assess the extent of the implementation of the plan for 1360 H.S. by the major ministries of Water and Power, Agriculture and Land Reforms and Mines and Industries. Both the seminars were addressed by the Chairman of Council of Ministers and some other leading Government officials.

In these seminars, Sultan Ali Keshtmand, stressed the need for further improving the method of work of all state establishments.

"As is clear", said Keshtmand, "the PDPA attaches special value and importance to the economic

growth of the country and believes that the removal of economic backwardness and the acceleration of the growth of the country's productive forces is one of the most important factors and fundamental conditions for the realisation of the aims set by the PDPA and to find ways to elevate the living standard of the people and introduce profound social transformations that may lead to the creation of a new society, void of exploitation of man by man, in accordance with the principles of equality and social justice."

As a key to successful implementation of the socio-economic development programmes and plans, the need for necessary initiatives by the responsible officials was also stressed. "The assigned duties", noted Keshtmand, "must be accomplished honestly and honourably. We must employ all necessary efforts so that the working class will take active part in solving economic problems and defending the gains of the Saur Revolution."

Another important issue ra-

ised in one of the two seminars was the implementation of the democratic land reforms, and distribution of water to peasants. Stressing the priority of agrarian tasks in a country, where almost 85 per cent of the population is engaged in farming, Keshtmand said, "The successful achievement of just and democratic land reforms is not solely the obligation of the staff of the Agriculture and Land Reforms Ministry, but also requires the continual attention of the party and social organisations, and state local organs and the active and serious participation of the industrial peasants."

With the persistent and serious attention being paid by the Government to the achievement of socio-economic development and especially raising agricultural production as well as with the readiness of the officials in charge to fulfil duties assigned to them, it is hoped that the objective set by the DRA Government and the PDPA in the realisation of the revolutionary ideals and ensuring social and economic progress will be achieved before long.

AFGHANISTAN

KABUL CARRIES BAKHTAR COMMENT ON LAND REFORM PROGRAM

LD201030 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Text] Land reform operational assessment groups which visited some of the country's provinces to look closely at the methods of implementation of the first phase of the land reform program, recently returned to Kabul. A Bakhtar commentator writes on the aims of the visit of the operational groups and the results they have gathered in the provinces:

According to a joint decision by the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the DRA Government concerning the continuation of implementing just and democratic land reform, the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform was given the duty to assess the early phase of the land reform program in at least two districts in each province.

According to the analysis of events and evidence on hand concerning the progress of land reform in our country, Afghanistan faced delay and disruption because of haste, deviation from revolutionary legality, nonobservance of the traditions, customs, religious beliefs of the people and the character of the region, the pursuance of the policy of tyranny and counterrevolution by Amin and his criminal band, and because of the intimidation and threat of counterrevolutionary forces. In accordance with the present reform phase, a number of farmers who received their lands or abandoned them [as heard]; it was also revealed that a number of farmers were not truly entitled and lands were distributed to them illegally.

In addition, questions related to water management, which is counted a major factor in agricultural production, were not carried out correctly and most of the lands did not have irrigation rights. Irregularities also exist in (?land registration). In accordance with the information from the country's provinces it was revealed that a number of farmers do not get any yield from their lands because of the lack of water and the lack of technical and production tools. On the other hand there are farmers that have not distributed their lands and they possess more than the legal taxable amount of first grade land, that is, 30 jeribs [2 jeribs equals 1 acre]. According to figures, 2,000 families possess 260,000 jeribs of first grade land. Taking away their legal ownership meant that 200,000 jeribs of their land was considered for distribution. Similarly, 170,000 jeribs of land were taken from the landowners, but it has not been distributed; thus 370,000 jeribs of land is yet to be distributed to 74,000 families and agricultural workers. As was revealed at the time of the distribution of

land, a number of deserved people did not accept land because of the lack of sufficient irrigation water. Therefore, at the present stage, possibilities exist for a large quantity of land to be distributed from the land distributed in the first phase [words indistinct] on the members of their families and new ones who qualify according to the stipulations of law.

Prior to the implementation of the land reform in the provinces it was deemed necessary to gather sufficient information and profound assessments concerning the land owners possessing land in excess of the legal taxable land, and also concerning other issues which have not been solved in earlier land reform phases. Therefore the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the DRA Council of Ministers decided on 20 June 1981 that the operational assessment groups for the assessment of the previous land reform phase should be sent to the country's provinces. The duties of the groups were as follows:

To assess those who have received lands in the course of the implementation of land reform in at least two districts in every province on the village level.

To assess the number of land owners in at least two districts in every province on the village level who possess land in excess of the legal taxable land.

To assess excess state land which has been distributed to state farms, municipalities and government institutes at the time of the process of the land reform.

The operational groups have carried out their assessments and have submitted monthly reports on their work to their respective centers. The assessment phase of the democratic land reform is due to be completed by 20 March 1983. The results achieved from the work of these groups are satisfactory. The people, farmers, peasants, patriots, religious leaders, and all national-democratic forces in the villages have assisted the operational groups and they are taking active part in the assessment work.

The Bakhtar correspondent writes, concerning the role of the information gathered in the implementation of the final phase of the land reform that the information collected by the groups has special benefit and plays a major role in the effective implementation of the land reform programs and, by evaluating this information, the true index of the [passage indistinct].

It is scheduled that the second, third and fourth operational plans concerning the democratic and just land reform will begin by 21 March 1982. It is expected that these plans will correct the mistakes that occurred in the previous phase of the land reform program and that official land, water and land ownership documents should be organized justly and democratically. Also in accordance with these plans, technical and financial aid, the construction of mechanized farms, the development of the cooperative movement and the construction of village infrastructure establishments have been considered. All these matters are being implemented slowly and step by step in accordance with the orderly scientific program, according to the wishes of the people and of every area, and in consideration of the traditions, customs and religious beliefs of the people, with the active cooperation of the broad masses of the toilers.

CSO: 4695/2

KABUL AREA TO GET THIRD ELECTRIC GRID

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 3 Jan 82 p 3

[Text]

The development plan of the third electrical grid for Kabul city has been fully implemented. With an investment of Afs. 656 million, excluding foreign loans, the plan was undertaken in 1967. Additional works, not envisaged in the plan, have also been carried out and they include 25 power transmitting stations and extension of power lines for Governmental organisations, 27 power transmitting stations along with 400 volt underground cables and extension of overhead power lines for the residents of Kabul, and installation of two power junctions in Khoshal Khan Mena and Khwaja Musafer with extension of 15 volt cables.

During the same period, a total of 8,759 metal metre-boxes with cement foundation, have been installed in various parts of the city and the necessary underground cables have also been laid.

Talking to the Kabul New Times reporter on power distribution in Kabul city and its vicinity as well as

to new projects, Anar Gul Jasoor, head of the project further added: Under the third electricity grid project for the city, installation of some 74 transformers and extension, and completion of power lines to cover 74 districts of Kabul city, extension of a number of overhead power lines and underground 15 kws cables was envisaged which according to the plan target, should have been completed by 1975. But, unfortunately under the past regimes, no attention was paid to the needs of people and things were done only to serve the interest of exploiting, bureaucratic and privileged classes. Powerlines were extended, for instance, to areas where the privileged and ruling classes lived.

However, with the victory of the glorious Saur Revolution, 75 per cent of the plan target has been fulfilled. Following the victory of the Saur Revolution, especially its new phase, fundamental change was brought about in the -

method of operation and work of the Ministry of Water and Power and constructive measures were taken to meet the needs of living people. In the past three and a half years, not only the carry-over work was completed, additional works have also been carried out in various areas of Kabul including the new residential projects in Khairkhana Mena, Khoshal Khan Mena as well as for the Governmental organisations.

Jasoor, said that, in addition to 52 power transmitting stations completed outside the plan to meet the needs of Kabul residents and the Government, the installation of two junctions with the assistance of the BCC Company of the Federal Republic of Germany, along with extension of its 15 kws connecting lines, extending from the north-west sub-station in Khairkhana Mena to junction number eight in Khoshal Khan Mena as well as some other junctions extending from Paghman cross-section to Khwaja Musafer has been completed and some

similar works are under completion in various parts of the city.

Work on preliminary survey of the fourth grid is being undertaken. After the technical feasibility study, the agreement for the fourth grid will be concluded between the concerned Afghan authorities and the German Democratic Republic.

As soon as the equipment arrives, work will begin on the fourth grid.

The power supply projects, which under the plan have been completed and being utilised, are located in 74 areas or districts of

Kabul city. And the projects which are under constructions include the third part of Karte Parwan, Wazirabad, the housing projects, four power stations in Khairkhana, and some others.

All the technical works are done by experienced Afghan personnel and after the completion of a particular power supply projects, the project is entrusted to the Kabul Electricity Department and the installation of the power metre boxes is looked after by the Kabul Brishna Muassessa.

CSO: 4600/193

EXPORT OF KARAKUL PELTS PROSPERS

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 3 Jan 82 p 3

[Text]

The Afghan Karakul pelt has maintained its place in the world markets qualitatively and in volume.

Talking to a reporter of the Kabul New Times, about Afghan karakul trade, Abdullah Abedi, caretaker of the Karakul Trade Development Institute of the Ministry of Commerce said, "The Afghan karakul with large number of buyers in the European markets has maintained its high quality compared to other countries supplying the same commodity. The quality of Afghan karakul has always attracted the attention of foreign buyers.

Despite inflation in the international markets, warm weather, rampant unemployment, world economic crisis and tendency of fashion towards long hair pelts, the karakul auctions this year has been satisfactory and the Afghan karakul has maintained its high place in view of quality and volume of sale.

In the November 1981 auction held in London, more than 375,901 karakul pelts were sold, fetching

4,654,425 dollars. Similarly, at another auction held in September in Leipzig, in the GDR 63,840 Afghan karakul pelts were sold, earning 700,874 dollars.

In the karakul auction held in August this year, 411,910 karakul pelts were sold bringing in 5,413,583 dollars.

Answering another question on next auctions, the caretaker of the Karakul Development Institute said, "The next auction will take place in January 1982 in Leningrad, the Soviet Union, where some 50,000 karakul pelts will be put on auction. The other will be held in Leipzig in February where the karakul pelts left over from the October auction will be put again on auction. And finally another auction will be held in London in February.

Where some 350,000 karakul pelts including the new consignments, as well as the left-overs from the September and November auctions will be put on auction.

The karakul pelt is one

of the important export items and the DRA Government has and is making much efforts towards development of this trade. Plans are underway within the country to further develop and augment the production of this commodity. The implementation of these plans will undoubtedly lead to increase in production of karakul and simultaneously to national economy and export of Afghan karakul, noted Abedi.

Ancient Afghanistan is the breeding centre of a variety of karakul sheep and since very long time, this country has been famous in the world markets for its quality karakul. The DRA revolutionary Government has launched comprehensive programmes aimed at further developing the karakul trade and its production on the basis of the most modern and healthy methods and such programmes have already yielded fruitful results as far as export of this traditional export item is concerned.

The Karakul Development Institute, with the help of the Government, has undertaken fruitful plans and is making all-out effort in collaboration with national traders and local firms, towards breeding healthy karakul sheep, by the way of providing of favourable conditions for breeding of sheep and better health pastures.

The Institute plans to build modern tanning and pickling plants in the major karakul sheep breeding centres. The institute also plans to acquaint the workers with the modern storage and maintenance of karakul

pelt technique.

During the season that is February through to June, the karakul pelts are purchased from the producers by the individual traders and exports as well as middlemen, and then are brought to the nearest tanning plants.

After tanning, the karakul pelts are brought to the sorting houses where they are sorted and packed under the supervision of the experienced sorters, Abedi said describing the process involved in collecting karakul pelts from the producers.

CSO: 4600/193

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

NEW INDIAN ENVOY--Dr Saleh Mohammed Ziray, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary and chairman of the national fatherland front national committee, received Ambassador Dixit of the Republic of India this afternoon during a courtesy call at the party Central Committee headquarters in Kabul. Nur Mahmad Nur, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary and vice president of the Revolutionary Council received the Indian ambassador this morning at the Central Committee headquarters on a courtesy call. Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, also received Indian Ambassador Dixit this morning at the Council of Ministers headquarters during a courtesy call. [Text] [LD191846 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 19 Jan 82]

CSO: 4695/2

UPGRADING OF HEALTH SECTOR, MEDICAL CARE, TRAINING EXAMINED

Problems Facing Sector Posed

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 20-21 Nov 81 p 3

[Text] Important problems are now being posed by the medical profession. The question has been sufficiently debated for an attempt to be made at a necessary clarification.

The universities and the training system, the public sector and its strengthening, specialization and possible outlets, development of public health "logistics," the distribution of specialists, the true place of the private sector in health care, disparities in income: These are all problems related to an essential question: that of clearing up misunderstandings and eliminating any ambiguities in order to achieve the objectives assigned to the health sector by basic legislation, particularly the Fourth Congress of the FLN and the resolutions of the Central Committee.

Concrete answers to all these questions depend on the development of free medicine. Once again, the goal is to meet the needs of the population through consistent, high-quality health care.

Along this line of ideas, one must admit that only the strengthening of the public sector, with respect to structures as well as manpower, will make it possible to meet the objective.

The importance of the organization of the activity of specialists in this sector is also great.

EL MOUDJAHID, which has taken the nation's pulse, now tries to give clear answers to the questions posed by all sides.

I. Problems Are Posed

Two main trends characterize the development of Algerian universities: first of all, the considerable growth in the number of students because of the democratization of education and second, a restoration of the balance in orientation. These two trends can only be continued on the *sine qua non* condition of taking into account the fact that neither the current structures or those being built can absorb the 200,000 students predicted for 1990. In view of this prospect, we must answer the question: What kind of university must we have and to fit what needs?

There is only one answer to this question: the national constitution. One does not train for the sake of training. One trains in terms of the demands of development intended to be independent, integrated and responding to the needs of all regions. Now then, are we moving along that path?

Although boring, one must look at the figures. At the present time, 65 percent of all high school graduates are in the scientific and technical disciplines, which is very good. Another figure, the last: Some 70 percent of them enroll in the common section of biology in the hope of going into medicine. If one excepts one or two other fields, such as data processing, everything else is empty. Metallurgy, electrical engineering, hydraulics, earth sciences and mechanical engineering are totally neglected to the great detriment of the national economy and staffing the means of production.

For the 10,000 students who enroll in medical sciences every year, it is a question of values, but which values? Essentially those dictated by the logic that it is the surest way to get rich fast. This is a fact that must never be concealed.

As a result, the universities risk evolving in a direction opposed to the options supporting the needs of a balanced development of the national economy.

Let us get down to the crux of the matter: The CHU [university hospitals] are vital. The medical apprenticeship is essentially a practical one. It takes place in a clinic much more than in an amphitheater. That is where one finds the residents, whose situation and concerns are now the center of attention. In particular, there is the question of the disparity in income. Who are they? They are students in training with the prospect of being either on a university hospital staff or assistant professors or public health specialists.

Algiers, Oran and Constantine now exercise a veritable monopoly over university hospital staffs. It is a situation that hurts other regions with respect to access to quality care and it complicates training because of an undeniable overloading of all structures at the clinical and preclinical level. The reason for this situation escapes no one: No university hospital center has been built since independence, at a time when the number of university hospital staff members was steadily growing.

While awaiting the construction of university hospital centers, a point to which we shall return, the problem of overloading, if indeed it exists, must be solved.

A central Ministry of Health director: "There is a disparity with respect to the distribution of personnel. In some departments, there are as many teachers as patients."

Is this a gratuitous or personal statement? We do not believe so. This conclusion was arrived at based on an inquiry that was to establish the size of the staff needed for medical care, training and research, at the request of teachers and the prompting of department heads.

Our source was cautious: "There are branches where we do not have enough medical personnel, but not many. There are many more branches where there is an overload, in Algiers, Oran and Constantine."

Can one estimate the extent of the overload?

"I can only give you proportions. The excess varies from two to ten practitioners, essentially assistant professors, and particularly affects certain areas of specialization highly thought of by the people."

This is very edifying. It is also the opinion of MERS [Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research].

In our opinion, the overload is all the more evident because the number of beds has dropped since independence. For example, Mustapha had some 3,000 beds for a population of the city of Algiers not exceeding 500,000. It now has fewer than 2,000 beds for a population of 2 million, plus a transient flow which the poor medical coverage in the country's interior forces to the large population centers. There is truly a plethora of personnel in some departments, while the people in most regions have a vacuum which practitioners from friendly countries try to fill. They have good intentions but they know neither the language nor the milieu.

A total of 143 out of 168 professors, 47 out of 56 docents, 30 out of 38 assistant lecturers and 647 out of 851 assistants carry out their triple activity of medical care, training and research in Algiers. This imbalance looks permanent because the number of graduates enrolled confirms the monopoly of Algiers (48 percent); Constantine (30 percent) and Oran (22 percent).

No substantial improvement in health care can be anticipated if the balance is not restored between the university hospital centers and the other health sectors, on the one hand, and between the big urban metropolises and the rest of the country, on the other.

Nor can there be any serious improvement in training if the current overloading of the university hospital centers remains.

Friction and Tension

The concentration of the university hospital corps in Algiers, Oran and Constantine hinders training itself, while maintaining scientific poverty elsewhere. The quality of training is first of all threatened by the overloading of the

university hospital centers. These centers are suffocating. Their oxygen is the regions, decentralization.

One resident in Parnet told us: "We do our own training. There is no one to train us. We study all semester long waiting for the examination."

And what about the professors? "They are the department heads!"

One reputedly brilliant assistant professor does not mince words: "Some of us spend one month out of three abroad. This is not profitable at all because before going into research, one has to master what I would call 'routine problems.' One cannot truly go into advanced scientific questions without first having practical training and work."

Moreover, the overloading is a source of friction and tension. One resident says: "Grading is not objective because it is not anonymous. Even if they are not graded, the professors' pets will always have posts in Algiers. Some are passed before they are through, while brilliant students are made to wait. Even if they are geniuses, they will never have posts here. The injustices must be eliminated by getting rid of the overload." Is it the fault of the professors? "No, they are overworked. In such a situation, one cannot get ahead."

Get ahead. How far and why? The way things are going, we shall soon win all the Nobel Prizes without the state of health of the population progressing one iota. It is the characteristic of all universities in developing countries to operate in ivory towers, connected to foreign scientific milieus and without any real grasp of the needs of the people or of local development.

The fruit of the reform forcefully reflected by the current mass of assistants risks leading nowhere. The class is blocked because of the internal nature of the decision and the overloading of the university hospital centers. The situation is identical to that of a factory where only the boss and the workers live together. The intermediate posts are vacant. The teachers must be taught.

One former practitioner: "There is blockage because the reform functioned only for the students, not for the professors and docents. Those who train the students worked. The training of the teachers did not function for lack of an effective and total implementation of the reform through the opening of departments. Those who were assistants in 1970 remained assistants in 1978. The machinery that should have enabled them to become professors did not operate."

What solution is there to the problem? The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research supports two series of complementary measures, some political, the others practical.

The most urgent step is undeniably the establishment of a system of orientation based on national needs. Within the framework of the university charter, a joint national commission is working to define these needs precisely. At the end of the year, it will orient the students from the common sections of biological sciences, who are very numerous and most of which want to go into medical sciences. A

reform of the programs and profiles of the biological disciplines should make it possible to upgrade areas other than medicine.

At the same time, we must strengthen the public sector through the full-time approach in order to respond to the three requirements of the university hospitals: training, research and high-level care.

A joint commission set up in 1979 made it possible to discern what university cities could handle medical training in order to relieve the larger structures.

Annaba will be the proof, not only of the correctness of the principle of decentralization, but also of the existence of human conditions needed to begin it.

With 27 assistant professors, Annaba relieved the congestion of Constantine, reduced foreign cooperation and provided quality care. Proof of this is the opening of a resuscitation department and establishment of an artificial kidney in record time: one year.

At the same time, using volunteers, university hospital posts were opened up, mainly for assistant professors, in the interior. This is not enough, whence the recourse to application of Article 5 of the 1978 decree concerning DEMS [expansion unknown].

Such a clause is not surprising. For Professor Ziari, there can be no mistake:

"At a time when he enrolls in his area of specialization, the resident knows perfectly well what system he will practice in and what awaits him. This is a commitment and the option must prevail at all times."

In the UMA demands (the UMA-Algiers viewpoint on all these questions will be published in tomorrow's edition) is the "definition of a legal, full-time schedule and the possibility of additional practice within a legally authorized and regulated framework so as to meet the concerns expressed by the population and respond to the wish of the Central Committee of making the human potential of the public sector profitable, while ensuring respect for full-time demands."

Such a demand is supported by the following argument: "An impressive number of practitioners leave the hospitals at 4:00 just like that, without the additional time which they have on their hands ever being made available to the people."

At first glance, this suggestion is tempting. But let us hear the patients and those concerned. Professor Ziari: "After 4:00, when one is a surgeon or an ophthalmologist in Algiers, it is difficult, if not impossible, to practice effectively in the private sector. At the present time in the world, the level of services demanded of specialists presumes, by virtue of their nature, logistical support which only the government can supply in Algeria. This brings us to the need to use the logistical support of the public sector for private care. Is it moral and correct for the government to subsidize the private sector? What will the pharmacist, the specialist, the surgeon do?" That is where the real question lies.

Another professor: "Can a surgeon do an operation in his office? No. He will naturally send his patient to his public service and will inevitably give him priority. He pockets the money in his office, using the state's means. There is no other choice. This can only hurt the patient who followed the normal channel."

This is already happening, if one is to believe certain patients and physicians. Now, what will happen if this state of affairs is legalized?

"The result will be the private clinic, which will create class medicine and completely throw the public sector out of balance, while giving the coup de grace to free care."

The problem is also a political one. At the same time, there is a threat to ethics and science, for what doctor can do eight hours effectively in a hospital, do his research activity, perform care, train others and then work privately?

The problem therefore resides in the fact that for some people, there has been a kind of "forcing" because they did not have the necessary equipment.

One patient: "The same thing exists everywhere, whether you are talking about the public or private sector. Not long ago, I chose the public and parapublic sector. I am talking about the CMS" [expansion unknown].

Why this choice?

"I will tell you why. In September 1980, my son had a high fever and convulsions. I went to the nearest office. When the need is urgent, one obeys a reflex equating the effectiveness of treatment to the sum one is ready to pay. It is a natural reaction today. You say to yourself: 'Nothing good is free.'"

But to get back to the change of options: "After his diagnosis, Dr B., the name of the private physician, told me that he probably had a tooth coming in or had a cold. In short, he prescribed a long list of antibiotics and vitamins, without forgetting the following comment: 'It's your fault! You are not raising that child, that is clear! He is sick because you work.'" But the fever did not go down and the convulsions came back. The next day, our friend was directed to an old doctor.

"The second one seemed more honest to me. He did not make any judgment, told me to throw out his colleague's prescription and to watch his temperature. Then he prescribed tranquillizers for me, Gardenal and Catalgine, if I remember rightly."

The mystery remained. The mother decided, without being completely convinced she was right, to take the child to the Debussy public clinic.

There, she was received by a Chilean physician, Dr Sanchez.

"It was 7:00. The clinic closed at 5. The doctor agreed to see the child and did so carefully. He felt his neck, which seemed stiff. He then sent me to

Mustapha for a spinal tap. Not until then was the diagnosis made: meningitis. Fortunately for me, I did not wait too long before going from a private doctor to a different one. I will tell you frankly: Private medicine is necessary, but not for advanced work. If you are getting the flu, are tired, have a sprain, for that it is fine; you can see them. But when you do not get well and things are getting more complicated, they can do nothing. The worst thing is that they do not quickly admit their ignorance. They end up by sending you to the public clinics after they have their money. That is what I think. It is as clear as can be, at least for me."

But is the public sector therefore satisfactory?

Full Time Principle

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 22 Nov 81 p 3

[Text] Let us get to the point: Point 52 of the Central Committee resolution asking the government to make provisions in order to "take maximum advantage of the human potential in the public sector, while ensuring respect for the full-time principle." I have never seen such a clear wording. To make things clearer, let us emphasize three things: public sector, full time and taking maximum advantage.

The verb "to take maximum advantage" is not isolated. It fits into a complete sentence. Now then, if I am not mistaken, a complete sentence expresses an idea. In our case, it is an appeal to the ministries of Health and Higher Education, as technical ministries, to assure the public sector, on a full-time basis, the conditions needed to take maximum advantage of its human potential. However, that human potential has obligations which the Central Committee did not see fit to recall because previous texts had done so. Let us take, for example, the decree of 20 February 1976 relating to the conditions under which assistant professors, docents and professors perform their functions in hospitals. Article 4 of the decree in question precisely defines the different tasks that are part of their professional activity. In particular, the latter includes: "daily morning and afternoon rounds on working days, out-patient consultations organized within the university hospital center and outside of the establishment in auxiliary health units, duty on nights, Fridays and holidays, with rotation for the different holidays, service in response to the special and urgent needs of the university hospital, occurring outside the normal schedule of duty, and participation in paramedical education."

We have quoted Article 4 of the decree in its entirety.

If you add to these obligations the reading of our daily newspaper in the morning or at the end of the day, family and conjugal duties, the reading of one or two scientific reviews or journals or others each week, you will have far exceeded 24 hours in a day!

In other words, this additional activity can only take place at the cost of scarcely tolerable operation of the public sector. In political terms, it means the death of the public sector.

We have now reached the heart of the matter: the public sector and the guarantee of its normal operation, which the full-time schedule is.

Following the reform of medical studies and the institution of free medical care, it was deemed completely natural that the medical corps working within the framework of a university hospital should devote itself entirely and within public structures to high-level care, training and research. It is a technical response to a political decision: the citizens' constitutional right to health protection by a general and free health service. Let us underline "general" and "free."

The majority of the medical corps supported this and continues to do so. It viewed it as the solution of the future for them and the people. For them, as a result of their desire to continuously follow advances in science that only state means can guarantee. For the people, because free care has raised the financial obstacle that prevented many from having access to the structures of the old health care system.

And yet, additional measures were deemed necessary: an extension of hospital services, decent living conditions, endowing the existing structures with adequate material and financial means.

The decision to grant free medical care was followed, in 1978, by a series of measures establishing the status of residents and other university hospital staff members, while linking them entirely to the public sector.

At the same time, free medicine substantially politicized health care.

Flaw

But where is the flaw? It has a double origin.

First of all, there is the bad example, the desertion from the public sector, 2 years ago, of 161 doctors, 139 oral surgeons and 180 pharmacists, if one is to believe a statement by the FNTS [presumably National Federation of Health Care Workers]. Why is this a bad example?

One resident: "We give care that is unquestionably better, we support the main health effort and take the trouble to follow the latest advances in medical science. But in one month we earn what a private practitioner makes in one day."

Science and Money-Grubbing

On the whole, the medical profession is basically honest. This quality must be justly rewarded:

"The private physician makes ten times more than a doctor working in a hospital. There are the ordinary medical certificates, 'boat prescriptions,' fictitious visits: Who is the most likely to do these?"

One cannot get rich if one remains primarily concerned about science:

"There is not another field evolving as fast as medicine. Theory and practice must constantly be joined. These are two scientific imperatives that only full-time work in the public sector can support."

Money-grubbing wages a struggle to the death with science. And yet, the option remains safe because the medical profession, like this professor, is aware of what is at stake:

"I do not have much faith in the private contribution to a modern health system that can provide good training and effective prevention. Naturally, for a time, one cannot meet a certain demand for pathology with respect to care. It must have a make-up, and therefore marginal, place in first-class care, but it is a transitory situation." That is clear.

But how is one to break down the remaining doubt? One professor:

"First of all, we must see that the privileges granted to the private sector are only temporary. Next, we must put an end to the disparity in income, mainly by finding adequate means of controlling private medical care, both ethically and financially."

Our interlocutor recommended three solutions: provide all means of exercising the profession, strengthening the public sector, both humanly and financially, and eliminating income disparities. These are three *sina qua non* conditions if one wants to avoid the following dualism: a private sector for Algerians and a public sector employing foreigners.

"We have invested too much in the public sector to let it be emptied of its substance."

Qualifications

All the means which the government is planning to put into the implementation of the university charter must help the medical profession, while providing a wise solution to the contradiction between the saturation of the university hospital centers and the pressing demand of people living in the interior.

The guiding principle of the university charter is decentralization of care and training structures, killing two birds with one stone: strengthening the public sector in medium-range terms and relieving the congestion of the existing university hospital centers.

Reference is sometimes made to the competence of the assistant professors.

The pretext: The level is threatened; the assistant professors are not competent enough. They cannot "fly on their own wings." They need training.

Professor Ziari: "All the specialists will tell you: When we went into service, we were no more qualified than the young people nowadays."

There are now clinics that operate with assistant professors because the professor is on sabbatical: internal medicine in Beni-Messous, obstetrics and gynecology in Parnet.

What does MERS say about this?

It is vital to assign specialists to the interior of the country under certain conditions. What are these?

"Materially speaking, we provide a vehicle and priority housing. An interministerial joint committee has provided a series of encouraging measures that will soon be made into law. These laws will guarantee holidays for scientists, career advancement, regional compensation, and so on."

All for the Public

Followup and the scientific advancement of assistants are therefore protected. From the standpoint of working conditions, additional equipment will be provided as teams are put into place.

In the Ministry of Health, a national equipment policy aimed at a short-term response to needs for health centers, out-patient clinics, maternity clinics, and so on, is shaping up.

"The year 1982 will be a year of the concrete implementation of this policy for all health structures," we were told by the director of infrastructure in the Ministry of Health. Some 1,200 X-ray machines, 1,600 dental chairs, 200 operating tables, medical furniture, various types of ophthalmological equipment, operating room and general medical equipment, laboratory equipment and nine scanners are planned. Five of the scanners will arrive in 1982. They will be delivered on a turnkey basis, with a 2-year guarantee, maintenance and technical assistance for the training of technicians and the doctors that use them.

This policy of integrated equipment, maintenance and training forces suppliers to open training centers and postsales services.

The health charter is a means of correcting the double imbalance between the university hospital centers and the other sectors, on the one hand, and between the large urban metropolises and the rest of the country, on the other.

If one excepts Annaba, we have, in the urban metropolises, an average of 1 doctor for every 1,100 to 1,600 inhabitants, while in the interior, the average may go as high as 1 doctor for every 7,800 inhabitants, as in the case of the governorate of Jijel, even though it is rapidly developing.

This situation imposes two types of measures: fair distribution of the medical profession among the regions; and scientific tutelage.

The assignment of a corps of teachers and professors, along with the assistant professors, will be the subject of the next meeting of the national university

this condition is not adequate to ensure quality training. This demands not only budgetary credits, but teachers, a minimum of pedagogical equipment and finally, practical training periods with the necessary means of transportation. Nevertheless, we have been told that the speed of the operation is to be maintained and standards set, such as: acquiring the necessary missing personnel in certain institutions and establishments; correcting overloading and understaffing; respecting the schedule for the startup of the health structures to be built in the coming years; and finally, planning the training of teachers. It should be stated that the objective of 12,000 students set for this year has been largely exceeded.

The general report on the 5-year plan (1980-1984) notes that the training effort undertaken must continue in order to raise the general level and make up the deficits that persist in some categories of specialized personnel (laboratory assistants, radio operators, and so on) found in the university health sector. One reads in the report that plans for graduating students and programs involve a total of 30,000 paramedics at all levels between 1980 and 1984, which would make it possible to meet most new demands. Practical training is taken into account. However, a special effort must be made for retraining and advanced training of personnel already on the job.

Discipline

As Bouhara recently stated, "Officials of the establishments must tolerate no outside interference in study programs."

In addition, Bouhara once more called attention of persons responsible for training -- whatever their duties -- to the need to understand that it is a time for serious work and that disorder and carelessness will not be tolerated: "The means employed and the efforts made to make the hundreds of health services being set up throughout the country operate normally must yield the expected positive results in quality and quantity."

Gap

However, it would appear that we are employing vast means everywhere without arriving at the projected result. We train many doctors: over 1,000 a year. We buy a great deal of equipment and medicine. Until the eve of the 5-year plan, all out actions were formulated in quantitative terms. However, the new plan has been projected as being much more economical and social than financial. This is an innovation in principles. What does it mean? That previously, the plan was confined to investments from which enterprises and sectors benefited in the form of packages through which one saw the solution to all our problems.

We are now realizing more and more that there is no financial solution to the problems of development. Rather, that solution lies first of all in minds, in men, in their organization.

Actually, underdevelopment must first of all find a consistent political solution that can ensure a just and optimum impact on the different economic actions planned.

commission. It will be made on the basis of an aptitude list of future docents on the national level, while taking up the establishment of a national plan to be worked out next year by the national university hospital commission.

Second, there is the matter of the assignment of teams under the scientific tutelage of the original institutes of medical sciences.

Along with decentralization, one must mention the construction of new university hospital centers and the construction of prefabricated biomedical buildings within the framework of an emergency program. Calls for bids are already being issued.

As one can easily see, in the light of all information gathered, the university charter is not "a nice children's drawing," as has been claimed with great levity.

Efforts and Means

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 22 Nov 81 p 5

[Text] Over 30,000 dossiers from the different socioprofessional categories in this sector that has experienced difficulties for many years have been put into order in less than 6 months! The activity of personnel management, which includes four divisions (medical, paramedical, technical, administrative and service personnel, and foreign personnel) has in recent months been essentially oriented toward the achievement of objectives deemed to have priority: reorganization of personnel in the Ministry of Health. With respect to activities, it has mainly been concerned with eliminating conflicts and standardizing the situation of health employees. This action has resulted in the creation of several workshops and a mobilization making it possible to reorganize all operations that had had problems for years: renewal of the parity commissions, expired since 1972; appointment of certification juries; the organization of professional examinations and tests; and appointment, integration and advancement.

One must add to this the administration of foreign personnel (over 3,000 persons) working within the framework of cooperation. One can imagine the amount of effort involved in performing, within a rather short period of time, work that requires much more time when one considers the problems (human and material) facing the department. Among the assets of the health services department is the sectorization of the national health system, which has not only resulted in a real decentralization of the distribution of care, but also in greater access of citizens to health structures.

Paramedics: Making Up Deficit

Under the heading of paramedical training, the doors of the establishments concerned have been opened to over 15,000 students, 5,000 more than last year. Everything is aimed at achieving this objective. The work of explanation, awareness training and emulation must be combined in all health sectors in order to make up the enormous deficit. The efforts undertaken prove that the departments involved are capable of taking in a relatively high number of students, particularly through the establishment of new auxiliary facilities in the health sectors. And yet,

Our experience has shown the ineffectiveness of models of growth based on mimicry and prestige. The first factory of its type in the world, the best manufacturing procedure, and so on. We sacrificed the full-time principle without obtaining better results.

Despite the major efforts made, the health system still shows many flaws: overloading of hospital clinics; the sometimes long delays required for some kinds of care of specialized examinations (ophthalmology, radiology, and so on); the lack or inadequacy of certain departments such as cardiac surgery, dialysis, retraining, kidney transplants, radiotherapy and neurosurgery; problems with transfusion, equipment, drugs, and so on.

One of the notorious consequences of this situation is the sometimes exaggerated pressure placed on the doctor and also the feeling of insecurity or simply dissatisfaction on the part of some categories of patients, which is manifested in continuous demands for care abroad even when the disease is benign or treatable at home.

Our medicine is oriented toward curing illnesses rather than toward prevention. The patient is seen by a different doctor on every visit. The bureaucratization of the doctor-patient relationship is a major obstacle to quality medical care. We are far from the saying that holds -- quite correctly -- that 50 percent of success in the medical profession resides in the psychological trust that the patient has in his doctor.

Unfriendly receptionists, cursory examinations, long waits have given us the firm conviction that one cannot receive care at a hospital.

In the face of the health structures' inability to respond to the needs of the population, a certain stagnation has developed that hurts both the quality of training and research as well as the care of the sick.

The effort remaining before us has no price. How can we have 5,000 doctors do the work of 30,000, while beginning the relaunching of research integrated into the overall actions of development?

Research has never before been so symbolic. The volume of Algerian communications in the Maghrebian community has known an incredible decline.

We hail the decision made at the prompting of the UMA to set up an ethics council bringing together physicians known for their moral authority in the profession.

Who Cares for Whom?

We continue to maintain that the nation is spending enormous sums to train doctors and that it has the right to expect them to provide services in keeping with the means invested. It is not because he works in the public sector that a physician is excused from reporting on the nature and quality of care. The credibility of free medicine is at stake as an irreversible option of our nation. One sick person cannot take care of another. Some 600 requests for housing for doctors are on

file in the governorate of Algiers alone. They come from doctors having an average age of 32 and many are married with children.

Transportation is as important to the medical profession as housing. The medical corps needs decent living conditions, consistent pay reflecting the respect which society has for the activity. This is for the greater good of the continued development of the public sector and effective application of free medicine.

In Mustapha, one surgeon is living in a shantytown. Some go looking for a hotel room in the middle of the night because they have given their bed to a patient.

Price of a Doctor

We have every right to expect a young graduate to serve in the public sector first. Unlike other systems, education is free. From the basic studies to graduation as a doctor, a physician costs some 42 to 58 million old francs nearly everywhere in the world. In our country, it is even more expensive.

These parameters include the cost of education, amortization, infrastructure and equipment, as well as the social cost. In addition, the government pays 7 million a year per student, without counting the scholarship and indemnification paid when that student is sent abroad for postgraduate study.

These expenditures are entirely borne by the government and its direct sources of funds. Private farmers do not pay any taxes. Manufacturers, merchants and other businessmen in the private sector make only a symbolic contribution to the effort.

The concern for judicious use of the human potential in the public sector in order to meet the needs of the population is now the subject of action aimed at ensuring the development of the health sector on a planned basis. What does the expression "health charter" mean? With respect to the general organization of health services, their growth, their equipment and human staffing, it is an action that stands out by virtue of its originality.

How are we to ensure the development of health between here and 1990, based on the needs of the entire population and its right to free, general medicine?

How are we to explain the program of the national constitution, which sets as an objective the standard of 1 doctor for every 2,000 inhabitants and calls for the implementation of a dynamic national health policy oriented toward the greatest satisfaction of the people's needs?

How are we to carry out the Central Committee resolution on health recommending "the establishment of a national health services charter on the basis of scientifically defined criteria and created in the spirit of correcting the disparity between regions and between the cities and the country?"

The configuration of the master plan for the health structures makes a distinction between four levels.

Highly specialized care is the task of 13 health regions, each organized as an autonomous zone responsible for the specific needs of a local population of

from 2 to 3 million inhabitants. This structure responds to the requirements of care, training and research.

Out of the 13 regional hospital establishments, 7 are combined with the university hospital centers already existing or being built. In other words, the action is already underway. Specialized and general care is the task of the governorate hospital institution. General care will be the responsibility of the daira [district] establishment, which includes the following disciplines: internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology and general clinic.

Finally, first aid and emergency care, except for hospitalization, are the task of the basic units, the out-patient clinics, health centers and emergency rooms.

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RELATIVES, FRIENDS DESCRIBE BACKGROUND OF EXTREMIST LEADER

Al-Islambuli's Mother Describes Son

Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 26 Oct 81 pp 1, 3

/Article by Tharwat Shalabi/

/Text/ AL-AHRAR has gone into the homes of the members of the terrorist organization. AL-AHRAR's correspondent Tharwat Shalabi and the photographer 'Id 'Abd-al-Hamid traveled to Naj' Hammadi and Malwa, met with the family of Khalid al-Islambuli, al-Sadat's murderer, and spent 7 hours with Khalid's mother. The mother, Qadriyah Muhammad 'Ali Yusuf, related how her son had concealed his preparations for killing al-Sadat from her. She said that her son the murderer, who was the youngest of her children, cried and was upset when he learned that his older brother al-Hajj Muhammad, a student in commerce at Asyut, was arrested as one of the people charged in the incidents of factional strife and that he went with her to Cairo after promising her that she would see her detained son--then suddenly requested that she leave Cairo and go back to Naj' Hammadi to wait for him until he finished the joint military parade there, so they could go together to visit his grandfather's grave. In the intent to conceal things from his mother, he gave her 70 pounds to buy a sheep and told her that he would slaughter it on the first day of the holiday and join with the members of the family in eating its meat!

It was a surprise to the correspondents of AL-AHRAR when the mother told them that her son Khalid was of Turkish descent!

The mother said that her oldest son, al-Hajj Muhammad, who has been detained in connection with the incidents of factional strife, was in Saudi Arabia when the aggression against the holy prophet's sanctuary in Mecca occurred, but she denied that her son had taken part in the aggression against the sanctuary!

The mother said that her son al-Hajj Muhammad was accused of defaming Anwar al-Sadat and tearing up his picture in the railway station in the city of Asyut in 1979, but she said that the charge had been trumped up and that the judiciary had declared him innocent because the evidence against him could not be established!

"My name is Qadriyah Muhammad 'Ali Yusuf, an educated lady and housewife. I am 54 and since childhood have grown up in Malwa in the home of my father, who was

paralyzed and taught us the Koran, the Sunna of the Prophet, and Islamic law, and urged us to follow the Islamic religion. I married Ahmad Shawqi in 1952. He is one of the distinguished men of Malwa; he has worked as a lawyer and is an exemplary man in his morality and his scholarly and practical life; he was assiduous in raising his children; he taught them how to pray and fast from the time each was seven."

She gave birth to four children:

Anisah, 28, who acquired a diploma from the Commercial Technicians' Training Institute in 1979, in Asyut. She married Rashwan Sa'd Rashwan, a social specialist in the al-Tabari Secondary School in Roxy /Heliopolis/.

Muhammad, 26, an undergraduate in commerce at the University of Asyut. He is one of the 1,536 people detained after the incidents of factional strife and resides with the family in Naj' Hammadi, where his father is now working as a legal affairs manager in the sugar company.

Sawmiyah, 25, who has a bachelor's degree in mathematical education from the University of Asyut, 1979. She married Muhammad Mamduh, an accountant with the 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman Company in Cairo.

Khalid, who is accused of killing al-Sadat, 24, a first lieutenant in the armed forces, in the artillery. He is single and has not been married.

The mother says, "My son Khalid was born in the home of the family of his father, al-Islambuli, on al-Tukhi Street in Malwa, in the Governorate of al-Minya on 14 November 1957.

"He entered the nuns' primary school in Malwa, then went to the sugar company school in al-Darb, Naj' Hammadi District. He then joined the al-'Urubah Secondary School in Asyut, which was called the American School, and acquired a general secondary diploma in 1976 with an average of 65 percent.

"Khalid's desire, from childhood, was to go to the War College, although his grades were not good enough to qualify him for university faculties. It was his hope to go into the air force but he did not succeed in doing so and entered the artillery, obtaining the citation of honor rank in his studies in the War College, from which he graduated in 1978.

"Khalid lived with his army unit in Huckstep [military base] and would visit his sisters Anisah and Sawmiyah, who were married and living in Cairo, to wash and iron his clothes every week. He only rarely came down to us in Naj' Hammadi, because of the distance between Cairo and Naj' Hammadi. I myself would visit Cairo to see him with his sisters."

He Cried and Became Upset

/Question/ When did Khalid learn the news of the detention of his brother Muhammad?

/Answer/ Khalid, my son, came to us the evening of Thursday, when we were in the family home in Malwa, on 3 September 1981, in accordance with a request from his father to repair a wall around the house and discuss building a new house with him on a plot of open land in Malwa that belonged to his father. When Khalid came down to us in Malwa he did not know the news of the detention of his brother Muhammad, who had been arrested at dawn on the same day that Khalid had come, the third.

When Khalid learned of his brother's detention he cried and said "Why did they arrest my brother? He didn't commit any crime." Then he broke down crying and became agitated.

Then he calmed down and told me, "Be patient, mother, with the curse God has wished on us and trust your affairs to God. Every tyrant comes to some end."

He then went back to Cairo on Friday 4 September 1981, taking me with him to ease my pain over the arrest of my son Muhammad, to visit his two sisters in Cairo and to enable me to see Muhammad when I would have an opportunity to visit him in prison or during his investigation. He told me "Mommy, you must see my brother."

A Request Awaiting Him

Khalid's mother continued the story by saying:

"I sat down with my daughter Anisah. My son Khalid rarely came to see me, since he was busy with his division in the army, hoping to get promoted to the rank of captain, and the division's tour was outside of Cairo."

/Question/ Didn't Khalid tell you what he was intending to do so that you could see your son Muhammad, who had been detained?

/Answer/ Khalid didn't reveal anything that was in his heart to me. He just asserted to me more than once that I would see Muhammad one way or another.

My husband Ahmad Shawqi came to Cairo to do some work for the sugar company where he was working.

/Question/ Do you remember the last words Khalid said to you?

/Answer/ Khalid asked me to go back to Naj' Hammadi on Thursday or Friday (this 8 or 9 October). He told me, "Wait, Mommy, until the first day of the period before the holiday, or the first day of the holiday; after the end of the military parade I am participating in I will have to come down and go to the cemetery to visit my grandfather (his father's father)." Khalid gave me 70 pounds to buy a sheep for the holiday and told me "I will come to slaughter it myself and we will eat it together." The sheep has not yet been slaughtered.

The mother pointed to a sheep tied up in the atrium of the house, then completed her statement:

"The sheep was not slaughtered because the incident occurred and I saw pictures of my son Khalid in the paper the next day, Wednesday. The police had grabbed

him by his hair and were yelling at him." (The mother broke down crying and became upset when she recalled the spectacle.)

/Question/ Where were you on the day of the military parade? Did you see the incident on television?

/Answer/ I did not see the military parade on television, but I heard it on the radio. Suddenly I heard shots and the announcer exclaiming "Traitors! Traitors!" Then the announcer said that President al-Sadat and his vice president, Husni Mubarak, had left the parade reviewing stand. After that, my heart sank. Then I followed the international broadcasts announcing the details of the incident.

/Question/ How did you learn that your son, 1st Lt Khalid al-Islambuli, was the one who had led the assassins of the late president?

/Answer/ The day after the incident, Wednesday 7 October, I saw a picture of my son Khalid in print and recognized him instantly, but I deceived myself and my eyes and did not believe that that was Khalid's picture. However, his father asserted to me that it was his picture, and I was astonished.

/Question/ When did you confirm that your son Khalid was the one who had committed the assassination of the president?

/Answer/ When I heard Radio London on Saturday 10 October mentioning that the name of the accused was Khalid 'Atallah I became skeptical about the affair, but I confirmed it when the newspaper AL-AHRAR published what was clearly his photograph on Monday 12 October. The newspaper MAYU also published a picture of him lying on a bed in the hospital on the same day.

My Son Is a Martyr!

The mother collapsed completely, and broke down crying and screaming, saying "My son, my beloved, may God look after me! May the caretaker be kind! May God look after me and the caretaker be kind! I hand everything over to you, lord, lord! He took his revenge against the tyrant and they must have killed him! They brought him out of the morgue and took a picture of him on the bed! They killed my lovely son Khalid!" Then Khalid's mother's body shook, her lips trembled, her cheeks turned red, her tears flowed and she started to scream, as she clutched the issue of MAYU in which Khalid's picture had been published. Silence and dejection dominated the group and her daughter Anisah, her husband's niece and some of her relatives cried along with her. She was embracing pictures of her son Khalid which had been printed in the papers she had been keeping. This sorrowful spectacle went on for more than half an hour.

I asked her, "Why did you insist that her /sic/ son died although the papers say that he has regained his health and will be interrogated in the investigations?"

She said, "A mother's heart has its reasons. I am his mother and I feel everything. I know that my son died on the day of the incident and I could imagine

him where he was, all swollen from being beaten, before they killed him. Believe me, my heart says that he died, but I considered him a martyr in God's care. My son was devout and he prayed."

The Motive for the Killing

/Question/ What motivated your son to kill the leader al-Sadat in your view?

/Answer/ If my son really was the murderer the reason in my opinion is that he collapsed after learning that his brother al-Hajj Muhammad had been arrested while he was asleep at dawn on Thursday 3 September during the incidents of the factional strife. They took him in his nightclothes without food or drink or any money on him and we have not yet learned anything about him.

/Question/ Did your son belong to a specific group, body, party or foreign or domestic grouping?

/Answer/ My son does not belong to any body, party or grouping. My sister's husband is a major general in the army, my husband's brother, Counsellor Muhammad 'Ali al-Islambuli, is a lawyer, and ours is a respectable family and most people in it have distinguished positions. How could we belong to the Renunciation and Repudiation /Society/as they say? The whole issue is that we are just people who stick to performing the obligations of almighty glorious God in the form of praying, fasting and memorizing the Koran, we deal civilly with people, no one has doubts about us, and we have no disputes with anyone, although we are Upper Egyptians who are known for violence and so forth.

She Was Distressed at Al-Sadat's Murder

/Question/ What is your comment on the assassination of the leader Anwar al-Sadat?

/Answer/ I was distressed as an Egyptian mother at what had happened to the president. After it was announced that he had died, I prayed to God that Egypt be saved from the evil of strife that could bring Egypt into a quagmire that only God would know. I was saddened because President al-Sadat's assassination prevented us from visiting my son al-Hajj Muhammad who was detained; we had been waiting for the holiday to come in order to visit him.

Of Turkish Extraction

/Question/ I have heard that your husband's family is descended from Turkish stock, and isn't Egyptian.

/Answer/ That's true. What you say is correct. My husband, Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli Agha, is descended from Turkish stock, but we were born and brought up in Egypt, and our nationality is Egyptian. Should we leave Egypt? What do you mean by your question?

/Question/ I learned that when the security men searched your house which is situated in the sugar company residential community in Naj' Hammadi, following President al-Sadat's assassination, they found weapons and publications.

/Answer/ I do not know anything about what happened in our home in Naj' Hammadi after I left it with my husband and these events took place.

/Question/ Did you have any weapons?

/Answer/ No. We did not. But my husband did own a revolver on permit for a long time. He handed the revolver over to the head of the state security investigating branch in Malwa the day of President al-Sadat's funeral.

/Question/ What about the publications that were there in your home in Naj' Hammadi?

/Answer/ There were no publications. All there were were just a few books on the Koran and religious books and some publications by Islamic groups issued at the University of Asyut. My son Muhammad is a student in commerce at Asyut and had some of them with him that he had distributed along with the rest of his colleagues.

/Question/ What about your son Muhammad who has been detained?

/Answer/ Muhammad obtained a primary certificate from the nuns' school in Malwa, then a preparatory certificate from the Malwa boys' school, and moved to the Naj' Hammadi secondary school, which is the site of his father's job in the sugar factory. Muhammad had to do the general secondary academic year 1973-74 over again because of his illness. He was then transferred to Nasir secondary school in Asyut, obtained a grade of 75.6 in science in general secondary in 1975 and applied to the Military Technical College. However, because he lacked some papers and the distance between Naj' Hammadi and Cairo was great he was not able to enroll in it, although that had been his hope, and he submitted his papers to the Faculty of Commerce at Asyut in 1976. He is now studying for a bachelor's degree and had to repeat four courses this year because he is a bearded /religious zealot/.

/Question/ What are the relations between your son Muhammad and the Renunciation and Repudiation Society?

/Answer/ None of them were ever around at all. He behaves in a very normal manner. His crime is that he wears a beard and is committed to the Islamic religion.

He went on retreat for the first 3 days last Ramadan. He also went on retreat in the mosque the last 10 days.

We Are Not "Renunciation and Repudiation"

/Question/ Did your son Muhammad have any connection with the Military Technical College/ case?

/Answer/ The Military Technical case, as I remember, was in 1974 and Muhammad was in the first year of secondary. Muhammad's connection with Military Technical College/ , as I pointed out previously was that he applied to enroll in it in 1976 but was not accepted; his connection with it ended for good. If he had had a connection with the Military Technical incident, he would not have been able to apply for admission to it 2 years later.

Likewise, as regards the Renunciation and Repudiation [Society], my children have absolutely no connection with that. Proof of that is that you are sitting with me and my daughter, we are wearing a veil, indeed ordinary Islamic coverings, and there is a television set in our home on which we watch religious programs.

/Question/ Was your son Muhammad previously arrested on the charge of tearing down pictures of President Anwar al-Sadat and showing him contempt and disparagement in the city of Asyut?

/Answer/ Yes, that episode occurred, but not in the manner you related it to me. What happened, rather, was that in 1979 Muhammad was taking his sister Sawmiyah, who was to travel to Naj' Hammadi by train at 0500 hours in the morning, and they were standing in the Asyut railroad station when a quarrel broke out between two soldiers. Muhammad intervened to settle the argument between the two and a military police car happened to come by and soldiers came down from it. They arrested everyone and took them to the Asyut police station.

That was less than a month before Muhammad's examinations. They were detained in the Asyut jail for 35 days on the charge of showing contempt for President al-Sadat and tearing up his pictures in front of people in the railroad station, although that was at dawn.

Muhammad took his examinations in prison and passed, for which God be thanked. When the case was reviewed before the Asyut court, the court found him innocent and his guilt was not established because of contradictions in the soldiers' statements, and he was released without bail.

/Question/ I heard that Muhammad was in Saudi Arabia when the incidents of the holy mosque took place in Mecca a few years ago.

/Answer/ Yes, Muhammad went to Saudi Arabia twice, first in 1978 when he was in the second year of the faculty and he went on the off-season pilgrimage in the company of his sister Sawmiyah. The second time he went to Saudi Arabia was in the third year in the faculty and he was supervising an off-season pilgrimage excursion of Asyut University students. After the off-season pilgrimage he stayed to go on regular pilgrimage, after which he returned. The incidents of the holy sanctuary in Mecca indeed took place but he had no connection with them.

Further on Al-Islambuli Story

Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 2 Nov 81 p 3

/Text/ A number of students at the University of Asyut who were classmates of al-Hajj Muhammad al-Islambuli, brother of Khalid al-Islambuli, have told AL-AHRAR about other aspects of the personality of the two brothers, Muhammad, the oldest child in the family, and Khalid, al-Sadat's murderer. These aspects are totally at variance with what their mother related to AL-AHRAR in its preceding issue. Al-Hajj Muhammad's classmates requested that their names not be mentioned, in concern for the "Upper Egyptian" relations between their families and the al-Islambuli family, which is concentrated in Malwa, where the murderer was born!

The classmate of al-Hajj Muhammad al-Islambuli, a student in the Commerce Faculty at Asyut University, said that the murderer's mother, in her conversation with AL-AHRAR, denied that her sons belonged to any organization or group. The truth is totally different /line missing/ all the people of Malwa and some people in Naj' Hammadi, where the family lives in the compound of the sugar company where the father of the two brothers works as a legal affairs counsellor.

Totally Isolated

Al-Hajj Muhammad's classmates say that his family in Malwa and Naj' Hammadi live totally isolated from society. No one visits it and no one can come close to the door of the dwelling, on which is written in large letters "Oh you who believe, do not enter homes other than your own."

Any of al-Hajj Muhammad's classmates who want to meet him must meet him at the university in the morning or in the mosque in the evening. Admission to his home is forbidden to strangers.

The girls in the family and the mother wear veils. Al-Hajj Muhammad is a leader of extremist Moslem elements and is well known throughout the university for his beard and his white robe. Although he is the oldest child in the family, all his siblings have graduated while he is still a student in the Faculty of Commerce at age 26, because his promotion of extremist ideas has taken most of his time and left him no chance to study. Last year he had to repeat four subjects, as his mother herself says.

His mother also said, in precisely these words, in the past issue of AL-AHRAR that her son al-Hajj Muhammad "went on retreat for the first 3 days of last Ramadan. He also went on retreat in the mosque the last 10 days."

His classmates wonder what it means for a young person to go on retreat in a mosque and not leave it for 13 whole days. They say, "We are all religious and we adhere to the teachings of Islam, but leaving the affairs of the world and going on retreat for no reason is something none of us is in the habit of doing except extremists, who want to propagate their fanatical calling among people going to the mosque or set out inequitable plans by exploiting the sanctuary of the mosque, where they are completely safe!"

Contempt for Al-Sadat

Al-Hajj Muhammad al-Islambuli's classmates stressed that the mother said that her son was a student in first year of secondary school at the time of the Military Technical case, while the truth is that her son al-Hajj Muhammad was a general secondary student at the time the Military Technical /Faculty/ was attached by the Renunciation and Repudiation Society!

The classmates of al-Hajj Muhammad, who twice went to Saudi Arabia to perform the obligation of the pilgrimage, said that his mother did not tell the truth when she claimed that he was falsely charged with showing contempt for the late leader Anwar al-Sadat and tore up his picture in the railway station in the city of Asyut.

What is the truth that the mother did not tell?

/They replied/ "The truth, and we were present at this incident and know all the details of it, is that al-Hajj Muhammad Shawqi al-Islambuli stood with some of his bearded colleagues in the Asyut city railway station in 1979 shouting 'Down with the late leader Anwar al-Sadat.' Some pictures of al-Sadat were hanging on the station walls and he tore them down, was arrested, had a file written up on him at the police station and was handed over to the prosecutor's office, then went to trial. However, the security personnel, as we found out, did not present the facts that they had to determine his guilt, out of concern for his future as a university student."

Khalid's Recruitment

Al-Hajj Muhammad's classmates asserted "It was he who recruited his younger brother Khalid when Khalid was in general secondary in 1976 and al-Hajj Muhammad was a student in the first year of the university. They were inseparable and set out strict rules for their family. The family members could go out only by permission and could not talk to strangers or watch television programs, which were heathen and atheistic!"

Al-Hajj Muhammad's classmates added that the mother, in response to a question by AL-AHRAR, denied that they belonged to the Renunciation and Repudiation Society and said 'How could we belong to Renunciation and Repudiation, when we have a television set in our home?' In response to another question, the mother said that her son had told her that he was taking part in the military parade. In response to a third question she said that she did not see the military parade on television but listened to it on the radio!"

Al-Hajj Muhammad's classmates wonder, "How can there be a television set in the home, showing the military parade in which her son is taking part, without her turning on the television set and calling in the neighbors to watch her heroic son taking part in the parade? There must be a stronger reason than maternal affection, and that is the fact that they belong with all their being to a group which prohibits them from watching television programs for any reason!"

Strange Behavior

Al-Hajj Muhammad's colleagues who come from Malwa and have studied in the University of Asyut said "His mother depicted the motive for the late president's assassination as a personal reaction that came upon her son Khalid when he learned that his brother had been detained along with the people charged in the incidents of factional strife. This statement could have been made if Khalid al-Islambuli had killed an ordinary person in revenge for his brother. However, the victim of the crime was a president, who cannot be killed so easily; rather, there must be a specific organization behind the murderer. This is from the standpoint of logic. From the standpoint of fact, Khalid al-Islambuli had for a long time been committing strange acts and displaying conduct; after his arrest we affirmed that these were firm preparations for carrying out the crime. Khalid came to Malwa during official leave, then suddenly disappeared, and we observed that he frequently traveled to Dashna and had doubts and wondered about the reason."

Why the doubts about traveling to Dashna specifically?

His brother's colleagues say "Because Dashna is the place of detention for criminal fugitives from justice who have been captured. No one visits Dashna secretly except people who have connections with the captured persons or want to obtain weapons to commit a crime!"

Finally:

This is just an attempt to shed light on a perverse personality which derives its dangerous nature from its simplicity. The person endowed with this personality is an ordinary young man whom one would not suspect of committing mere violations, and here this personality is concealing a criminal mentality of blind fanaticism, arranging and planning to assassinate the top man in the state and succeeding in his plan!

11887

CSO: 4504/79

FAMILY OF TERRORIST LEADERS DESCRIBES ORIGINS, BACKGROUND

Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 2 Nov 81 pp 1, 3

/Article by Layla 'Abd-al-Salam: "'Abbud al-Zumr's Wife Relates the Life Story of Her Husband the Terrorist Leader"/

/Text/ AL-AHRAR has gone into the homes of the leaders of the terrorist organization. Layla 'Abd-al-Salam, an editor with AL-AHRAR, met with Mrs Wahdah al-Zumr, wife of 'Abbud al-Zumr, leader of the terrorist organization, and his mother al-Hajjah Nazirah. She also met with Mme Asya, mother of Tariq al-Zumr, the assistant to the terrorist organization's leader, and AL-AHRAR listened to a number of relatives of 'Abbud and Tariq al-Zumr in the village of Nahiya in the Governorate of al-Jizah.

Apparently the terrorist leader was born in the City of the Dead near al-Imam al-Shafi'i and grew up spoiled and introverted. A few months ago his condition changed; he issued instructions that no one was to enter his home and he ordered his wife to wear a veil. At the same time, 'Abbud deliberately appeared during the fasting hours in Ramadan smoking a cigarette!

People in the village of Nahiya related that the assistant terrorist leader issued the strangest list of prohibitions and compelled the people of the village to carry them out. He attacked people on the pretext of compelling them to pray, prohibiting them from watching television or listening to the radio; anyone violating instructions would risk a beating and destruction of his radio or television set. At the same time he took solitary excursions, visited the zoo, and went forth, set out and compelled other people to cover themselves up and withdraw!

'Abbud 'Abd-al-Latif al-Zumr was born 33 years ago in Hawsh al-Hajjah Zaynab in the City of the Dead about al-Imam al-Shafi'i in Cairo, where his father 'Abd-al-Latif al-Zumr and his mother al-Hajjah Nazirah al-Zumr lived after severing their ties with their village of Nahiya because of family disputes. For 20 years the couple were childless. Some of their old relatives say that the reason the couple lived in the City of the Dead was that they had been told that living among graves provoked terror, and terror helped produce children!

After 20 years of waiting, they gave birth to a baby girl then another baby girl, and finally there came the boy they had long waited for. The world could not

contain their joy. Some people indicated to them that in order for him to live they should call him 'Atiyatallah, but they named him 'Abbud, after his grandfather.

'Abbud was totally spoiled by his parents and no one could refuse any of his demands. His father would take him to school every day; even in general secondary he did not let him go to or come back from school but took him from home to school and from school to home himself!

The parents had another boy, whom they called Ahmad, who acquired a secondary certificate in commerce and is now working as an employee in the village council of Abu Ruwash in al-Jizah.

The quarrel between al-Hajj 'Abd-al-Latif al-Zumr ('Abbud's father) and his family continued; he went back to his village, Nahiya, and became the village head. However, he was extremely kind and even neglected to look after his own rights. His cousin Mukhtar al-Zumr managed to remove him from the position of village head and become the head himself.

Fear of Mixing

'Abbud grew up and went to the al-Sa'idiyah secondary school in al-Jizah, obtaining a general secondary certificate with high marks.

His mother, al-Hajjah Nazirah, says:

"We were afraid that he would mix with his classmates. We have our traditions in the village and do not recognize other people's traditions and morality! When his father died he himself was put in charge in the home; his orders were obeyed and his instructions were carried out.

"'Abbud left and got married, but his marriage did not last long. Disputes occurred over the failure to have children between him and his bride. They separated 8 months ago and 'Abbud married again, having married the daughter of his aunt, Wahdah al-Zumr, 4 years ago."

Suddenly My Husband Changed

Wahdah al-Zumr, 'Abbud's wife, who has a secondary school diploma in commerce, says,

"My husband 'Abbud is of calm disposition. He does not refuse any request I make. After we were married he allowed me to study English in the liberal arts section in Cairo University. I would go to the university to take courses and would come back alone. He trusted me and was extremely happy. We always went to the club and the theater and the movies and would exchange visits with our friends."

Wahdah stopped talking, as if she was trying to refresh her memory, then said,

"Suddenly 'Abbud changed, and everything in our life changed, just a year ago. There were no /more/ clubs, no movies and no exchanges of visits with friends!"

He allowed me only to visit my mother, his sister and our uncle 'Aziz al-Zumr, member of the Consultative Assembly; he wouldn't allow us to visit anyone but them or let them visit us. Our contacts with the world were severed. It was prohibited for us to turn on the television except when religious serials and discussions were broadcast.

"Just 2 months ago he asked me to wear a veil and I couldn't agree without learning the reason. I thought, 'He must be jealous of me!'

"He was extremely happy, tolerant and affectionate and was also liberated, and he let his two sisters exchange visits with their girl friends and let them go to the movies. In fact, he himself insisted on going with them to the al-Fantaziyu theater. He had not yet grown a beard. I saw him pray only very recently. From that time, his condition began to change. He prevented us from receiving strangers in the home and he prevented us from sitting down with our men friends. However, in spite of that, I do not believe that he joined the Renunciation and Repudiation Society. We are against killing and bloodshed because the Islamic religion does not allow that, and the prophet--on whom be God's prayers and peace--has made murder one of the greatest major sins, which cannot be forgiven."

The Government Was Generous With Us

Al-Hajjah Nazirah al-Zumr, 'Abbud's mother, told me,

"The government was generous with us. The government sent me on pilgrimage and the government named two streets in al-Jizah after our family, one in the name of my son 'Abbud al-Zumr and the other in the name of his uncle the martyr Maj Gen Ahmad 'Abbud al-Zumr, one of the heroes of the October war, may God have mercy on him. The intention is to name the Diversoir tunnel after him. I was sad over al-Sadat's death as I was sad over 'Abbud the day he was seized in the ambush that had been set for him out by the Pyramids. From that day on I do not believe that my son would resist the authorities and would lead a terrorist organization, as stated in the papers and broadcast on the radio."

Tariq al-Zumr

Tariq al-Zumr, brother of 'Abbud's wife Wahdah, is at the same time 'Abbud's nephew and closest friend. He is a second-year student in the Faculty of Agriculture at Cairo University and has two sisters and a younger brother.

Asiya al-Zumr, the mother of Tariq, 'Abbud's assistant in the terrorist organization--who at the same time is 'Abbud's mother in law and aunt--says,

"We left our village, Nahiya, and came to live here in al-Jizah once the disputes intensified among the members of our family on the one hand and between our family and Ahmad Nasir's family on the other, as a result of touchy feelings since the days of the National Assembly elections. The family asked us to volunteer to buy weapons to protect ourselves! I took my children and we left the village to go live in al-Jizah.

"My son has been the man of the house since his father grew old. He is passionate and loves me greatly. It is he who issued orders to his younger brother Muhammad not to talk louder than his mother, and Muhammad adheres to his older brother Tariq's instructions.

The mother went on, "I do not believe that Tariq is a member of an extremist religious society. All his life he has loved movies and has been enamored of foreign movies and detective serials. He bought and read all of Hitchcock's stories. He is light-hearted and likes excursions. He was always visiting the zoo."

Tearing down the Sign

However, al-Hajj Hani Muhammad al-Zumr, an elder in the family, describes Tariq as violently extremist and says "He and some colleagues decided to set up a mosque in the village near the home of Ahmad Nasir, former member of the People's Assembly, who had disputes with our family because of competition in the elections which reached the stage of an exchange of gunshots.

"Tariq got 5,000 pounds in aid from the government to build the mosque and collected 25,000 pounds from local inhabitants. He put up the foundations for the mosque and Shaykh 'Abd-al-Shafi Nasr, who was a member of the village and a scholar at al-Azhar, came and placed a sign over the mosque calling it the al-Sadat Mosque. However, Tariq and his group tore down the sign and a quarrel arose between Tariq's group and Shaykh Nasr's family over removing the foundation of the mosque. However, the governor of al-Jizah and Shaykh Salah Abu Isma'il, member of the People's Assembly, intervened, holding a peace meeting."

'Adil al-Zumr, a member of the al-Zumr family, says,

"Tariq told members of his family, 'You are a family of atheists and heathens.' He and his group prohibited people from praying in the Mosque of Shaykh Sayyid 'Umar al-'Iraqi in the al-Zumr area, considering praying in this mosque to be 'forbidden and apostate,' because the mosque had Shaykh al-'Iraqi's tomb.

"They attacked houses to force people to pray. It was their opinion that husbands must not walk alongside their wives but that the wives must go before them, and they imposed this notion on the inhabitants of the village.

"They prohibited women from milking cows, making stuffed vegetables or eating cucumber because that provoked women's lust!"

'Adil al-Zumr added that Tariq tried to commit aggression against one of his relatives in his home because he heard a radio, tried to smash the radio and said that that was prohibited. He also tried to smash some television sets people in the village owned and the security agencies informed us of that.

With a Cigarette during Ramadan

'Abbud al-Zumr has lived in an apartment on 3 'Ayfi Street in al-Jizah since he moved from the City of the Dead near al-Imam al-Shafi'i more than 20 years ago,

and he has stayed in the same dwelling with his mother since his sisters got married. 'Abbud married twice and remained in the same apartment.

Al-Hajj Sayyid Talbah, owner of the building, says that 'Abbud al-Zumr was accustomed to appearing during the months of Ramadan at fast times smoking a cigarette. Many fights between him and the residents of the common section occurred because of that!

Al-Hajj Sayyid adds "'Abbud's family did not mix with neighbors. Last year 'Abbud put thick curtains up over the balconies and windows. We were amazed because they did not show their laundry to people. After that we learned that clothing, in the eyes of 'Abbud's family, is not to be exposed."

Why We Are Presenting the Terrorists' Life Stories

AL-AHRAR is anxious to present the facts concerning vital, serious matters strictly as they are. The crime of President al-Sadat's assassination is one of the most serious of matters and it is necessary that light be shed on all aspects of it. It is not just an incident, the assassination of a leader; rather it is connected to terror, which it has become every sincere citizen's objective to rid Egypt of. Our objective in presenting the life stories of the terrorist leaders is not to entertain, not to gain a scoop, but to serve a specific viewpoint, and we are offering these stories through statements by personalities who lived with the terrorists and played no part in the terror, permitting the investigating agencies to interrogate them in the context of the sovereignty of the law. Our goal is to have these stories shed light on hidden features of the lives of the terrorists which the investigation has not dealt with and they will perhaps be of benefit in studying the roots of the tragedy of terror in Egypt, a grave phenomenon which threatens our life and whose treatment and extirpation will require completely frank talk--a necessary burden that the media must bear since the seriousness of the policy of media blackout in the recent past is apparent.

11887
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CABINET COMMITTEES REORGANIZED

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 8 Jan 82 p 3

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER Dr Fuad Mohieddin yesterday issued a decree to establish four Cabinet Committees : The Higher Committee for Economic Affairs, the Committee for Services the Committee for production, and the Committee for Legislative Affairs.

The Higher Committee for Economic Affairs, to be headed by Dr Mohieddin himself, will comprise the Deputy Prime Minister for the People's Assembly and Shura Council Affairs the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister for Production, the Deputy Prime Minister for Services, the Minister of Local Government the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs, and the Minister of Finance, Economy and Cabinet Affairs.

The Minister of Defence and

Military Production, and the Minister of Interior are entitled to attend the meeting of this committee when issues concerning their ministries are debated.

The main task of the Higher Committee for Economic Affairs is to discuss and to suggest plans and programmes to fulfill the government's commitments to the People's Assembly. The committee will further determine the Economic Development Plan at the National and provincial level and draw up a national policy for the protection of the environment. The Committee is also to establish financial, economic and monetary policies to achieve a steady internal and external balance and to meet the targeted growth rate.

The Committee will also set guidelines for the open door

economic policy to overcome the obstacles which hinder its implementation. It will also determine means to overcome the difficulties which impede the full utilisation of foreign loans and aid.

Further the Committee is to draw up a general policy to improve the quality of the administrative performance and to increase production and to lay down principles of tax and customs duties exemptions.

Finally, legislations will be suggested to regulate the main activities of various sectors and departments.

The Cabinet Committee for Services, to be headed by Mr Nabawy Ismail, will shoulder the responsibility of discussing plans and policies of the ministries concerned with services. It will co-ordinate their work and service plans on the national level. — GSS - MEN

CSO: 4500/92

THREE NEW TOWNS AROUND CAIRO PLANNED

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 1 Jan 82 p 1

[Text] THE new year will witness the construction of 200,000 flats within the framework of an ambitious plan to secure a decent accommodation for all citizens.

This announced yesterday by the Minister of Reconstruction and Land Reclamation, Mr Hassaballah el Kafrawi who said that feasibility studies are being conducted for the establishment of three new cities round Cairo, namely Amal City to the East of the capital, on the Kattamia road, Obour City on the Cairo-Bibla desert road. The third city will be set up on the Cairo-Suez road.

Six new cities have risen around Cairo, Mr el-Kafrawi said, as there was no other solution but to develop such new communities to absorb the ever-increasing population in the country.

The housing problem is the outcome of long years of accumulated problems of infrastructure and shortage in labour and building material.

The new cities will be linked to the downtown Cairo by means of a circular metro train line. The Minister of Reconstruction and Housing held a series of meetings with top officials in the Railways Authority, the Ministry of Power, the new cities to work out studies relevant to developing transport, and communication as well as

energy supply to the new communities.

About the progress of work in October 6 city, Mr el-Kafrawi said that plots of land shall be delivered to applicants who had reserved such plots. Electricity has been already supplied and water will be available in ten days' time. Afforestation project is also underway, together with paving and macadamising roads.

The Minister also said that there are more than 1,000 flats ready for delivery in May 15 City. Meanwhile, he said, 25 construction companies are currently undertaking the execution of the second phase of the city including 12,000 flats to be delivered in 1982.

Mr Kafrawi said that the current policy followed by his Ministry would offer a radical solution for the housing problem before 1990, ten years less than what the experts had predicted.

In 1981, the Minister said, a total sum of LE. 450 million has been allocated for building loans distributed to governorates, the General Authority for Building Cooperatives, the Reconstruction and Housing Bank and the Ministry's finance fund. The sum represents an increase of 100 per cent over the previous year's allocation.

Commenting on the New Housing Law, Mr Kafrawi said that it would help eliminate the problem with achieving justice for both the tenant and the landlord. The new law gave the landlord more privileges than any other investment project could offer. The state granted him 90 per cent of the building costs with a rate of interest of three per cent only.

The law also permitted the owner to get a two-year advance rent at a maximum of LE. 2000 and selling one third of the building or renting it furnished and exempting him from estate taxes.

The Minister said that the government issued that law to encourage the public sector into more active participation in solving the problem. Under this law, the landlord would be in no need of getting key money.

FLATS FOR ARMY OFFICERS CONSTRUCTED

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 1 Jan 82 p 3

[Text]

THE Armed Forces Engineering Corps has started work a project for building 100,000 two-room and three-room flats, each with a hall, in Cairo and other governorates.

This was disclosed yesterday by Major General Mohsen Sedki, Head of the Corps, who said that the flats would be built on land lots previously used as army camps.

The flats will be sold to non-commissioned officers and soldiers, without any advance payment, and the cost of the construction would be paid in monthly installments over thirty years, Major General Sedki added.

Of the 2,000 flats under con-

struction in the town of Al Tawfiq, 1,000 have already been completed and delivered to their owners, while 500 will be delivered in January and the rest in June.

CONSTRUCTION

In the town of Al Salam, 2,000 flats are now under construction, and will be completed and delivered to their owners as from October next year. During the first half of the next year, 180 flats will be completed in Abu Kir, Alexandria.

The whole project will cost LE. 1,000 million, and will be completed within five to eight years.

Meanwhile, facilities to overcome housing problems will be offered to engineers and physicians. The engineers' flats 300 in number will be set up along the Nile Corniche in Helwan. Applications for reserving them will be possible starting from today. The prices of three-room flats range from LE 15,000 and 18,000, with the advance payment for reservation being LE 3,000.

The Medical Doctors' Association next week will hand over to its members 300 building plots in Ramadan 10 City, according to Dr Ossama Abdul Aziz, Secretary General of the Association. — GSS

CSO: 4500/92

PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS TO GET SEVEN PERCENT BONUS

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 1 Jan 82 p 3

[Text]

PRIVATE sector workers will be entitled to obtain annual bonuses starting from January by force of law without any need to sign new agreements with the industrial and business bodies concerned with the private sector, according to the Minister of Manpower and Vocational Training, Mr Saad Mohamed Ahmed.

The maximum of any bonus will not exceed LE 7 and the minimum will be LE 2, said the Minister, unless there are better systems of annual bonuses in the companies concerned.

The Egyptian General Trade Unions Federation (EGTUF) used in previous years to sign collective agreement with the commercial, tourist and industrial chambers providing for granting the private sector workers the annual bonuses.

LABOUR LAW

This year, the Minister said, it has been decided that private sector workers would receive their

annual bonuses starting from January on basis of not less than 7 per cent of the salaries and wages as at December 31.

The new Labour Law enacted in 1981 gave the various firms free hand as regards the annual bonuses they can grant to their workers, Mr Ahmed said pointing that the law only fixed the minimum to avoid any encroachment on the workers' rights.

The Minister, who is also the Chairman of the EGTUF, said that the Federation will soon celebrate its silver jubilee. On the occasion, he said, silver commemorative coins will be available.

— MEN. GSS.

CSO: 4500/92

PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES GUARDS MEETING

LD211440 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jan 82

[Text] According to a central news unit report, the final session of a 3-day seminar by the commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps was held today in the presence of Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi.

During the ceremonies one of the members of the Command Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps spoke about the training of revolution guards.

Then in an address on the role of the corps, the prime minister said: The biggest example which the people have found in their modern world is the Imam of the Islamic nation and, if you recall, the Imam's views on life and their influence on people. Indeed, the models have changed and a transformation has taken place, thereby giving our revolution a greater momentum. This momentum, thanks to the revolution, has made people more steadfast.

He added: The people still talk about the small house in which the Imam lives. This in itself shows how effective is this conduct and approach in keeping people interested and in making the people clutch at God's rope.

The corps too enjoys a similar position among our nation and this in itself entrusts some onerous tasks to the corps, including various problems, planning their future programs and extending the beautiful values which the corps is famous for. For this reason the corps cannot merely contend itself with the problem of how it should act and what stance it should adopt vis-a-vis counterrevolution. This constitutes one great aspect of the tasks of the corps. However, the question as to what effect will the conduct of the corps have on future generations and on the form which our revolution will take is also of tremendous importance.

The prime minister also said: Another important question is the constitution of the corps and relations with other organs.

He added: The corps, on behalf of the people, intends to defend the revolution and, on behalf of the people, undertakes the confrontation against counterrevolution; and in this manner the corps grows, in dealing with the plots in Kordestan, then in different parts of the country and, finally, with the problem of the imposed war.

However, the work carried out by the corps was not merely being entangled with the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and other enemies and being engaged in fighting on the country's southern and western borders. The functions of the corps have many dimensions. One of the most important characteristics of the corps which I think is extremely significant is that if we were not to take into consideration the future prospects and the revolutionary propensity of the corps and were to restrict the corps' operations we would be committing a grave blunder.

Mr Musavi added: We should work out our constitution in such a manner that within a clearly-stated framework--while maintaining diversity--we would be able to safeguard the function of the corps so that in the long run the corps would be able to remain a vital part of our revolution.

Continuing, the prime minister said: We have often chanted the slogan for the liberation of Jerusalem and have often thought that the Saddam regime, because of its anti-Islamic and anti-popular attitudes, cannot remain in the region. We are certain that the plots hatched by world imperialism and zionism against us will not end; and these plots cannot merely manifest themselves through domestic mercenaries and minigroups. I think it is essential for us once again to bend over the region's politico-social map, to forecast future changes, to study their possibilities and to assess the role of the corps on the side of our heroic armed forces.

The third speaker during today's meeting was Mr Mohaqeq Damad, the head of the state inspectorate-general, who spoke about the corps' judicial problems in connection with the state inspectorate-general.

CSO: 4640/130

'UNITY WEEK' DESIGNED TO BRING TOGETHER SHI'ITES, SUNNIS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 7 Jan 82 p 1

[Text] Moslems are on the verge of Unity Week celebrations beginning tomorrow, Friday, the birth anniversary of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (SAW).

This will be a week during which all Shi'ite and Sunni brothers will warmly embrace each other in Islamic Iran and march towards increasingly strengthening their solidarity and brotherhood and to deal a heavy punch into the mouth of the enemies of Islam and Moslems.

Unity Week: A week during which Shi'ite and Sunnis shall march side by side against the East and the West, a week during which all Moslems shall relive their unison in solidarity against their enemies.

It is also a week during which Moslems and our nation shall unanimously shout: Death to America.

Called on by Iran's prominent clergy leader Ayatollah Husseinali Montazeri and subsequently approved by the Revolutionary leader and Founder of the Islamic Republic Imam Khomeini, Unity Week was welcomed by the country's Shi'ite and Sunni clergy and all the world's true Moslems as a timely political-social-religious gestures of goodwill.

The true Moslems of the world hailed the call of Islam for staging Unity Week as another important policy step to thwart, repel and defuse the conspiracies of the Eastern and Western superpowers.

It will be a week that will once again unite Shi'ites and Sunnis of the world under a single Islamic umbrella and a joint front to deal a blow to all imperialistic, Zionist and reactionary forces who always feared such a unity and hatched plots to keep these two branches of Islam divided.

In principle, the unity between Shi'ites and Sunnis was one of the biggest assets of the Moslems. Plans, therefore, were made to keep them apart.

Prominent Iranian religious leaders and great leaders of both the sects held meetings in Egypt to increase unity and coordination between Shi'ite and Sunni forces of the world and triumphed in achieving their goal to some extent.

But oppressors feared such a unity since the time of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) which displayed the power of Islam and the Moslems. That is why the colonialists sowed discord between these two sects.

Colonialists geared up their news media and communication networks to promote a distorted picture to keep Shi'ites and Sunnis apart.

Well-planned, petty differences were raised by the enemy's stooges lodged on both sides, that of the Shiites and Sunnis--to excite the two sects. And to further deprive the Sunni and Shi'ite sects of brotherhood, solidarity and unity during the Haj ceremonies: A most powerful unity and strength throughout the world comprising of one billion Moslems.

However, the plots of enemies to turn Moslems of different regions, origins, characteristics, and languages shall be defeated. The foreign-installed powers in Arab countries bought by imperialists and Zionists shall fail to turn Moslems against each other.

The unity of Moslems shall lead to liberation of all Moslem lands occupied by usurpers, downfall of all reactionary Arab heads, end of domination of the United States over the Persian Gulf and the Middle East and establishment of a unified universal Islamic government on earth.

The unity of Shi'ites and Sunnis in Iran and the coordination between the clergy of the two sects in the Islamic Republic has automatically put to death all negative conspiracies to divide them all the propaganda has also been scotched.

Exemplifying such unity, Iran's Islamic Republic will march forward until, as the Quran says "only the Party of Allah shall ultimately overcome their enemy."

CSO: 4600/185

FOREIGN DELEGATES INTERVIEWED ON UNITY WEEK

GF191848 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Excerpts] A number of foreign delegates who participated in the Islamic Unity seminar are currently in Mashhad to pay homage at the holy shrine of his holiness Imam Reza, peace be upon him and his scion. The delegates gave an interview to the central news unit's correspondent in Mashhad yesterday afternoon.

In response to a question about his views following his visit to Iran, Prof Mohamad Taher Qaderi, a Pakistani guest at the ceremonies, said: Prior to my trip here, my views on Iran were very superficial. However, I did not have any doubts about Iran being Islamic. The superpowers' propaganda about Iran is spiteful and totally contrary to the truth. They have created rumors about the Islamic regime of Iran being under the influence of the Soviet Union. They also say that communist and socialist ideology is prevalent in this country. Unfortunately, the adverse propaganda has affected a large number of people in Pakistan and other countries. He added: Following my visit to Iran, I came to realize that this propaganda is nothing but blatant lies and that the regime is based on Islam.

Professor (Rafiqkhan) of India, discussing efforts to publicize the Iranian revolution and the adverse effects of the superpowers' propaganda about Iran, said: The Iranian Embassy has carried out effective efforts to familiarize Indians with the Islamic revolution in Iran. However, the superpowers are spending immense sums of money for propaganda and have started a (?basic) movement against the Islamic Republic of Iran. They claim that the revolutionary government is moving people toward destruction and claim that women are not free in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Islamic Republic's Embassy in India and supporters of the Islamic revolution in India have resisted such allegations and have revealed the superpowers' plots and lies.

An Afghan delegate then discussed the results of unity week and its influence on the struggle of the Muslim people in the region, especially the Afghan people. He said: Unity week is a very interesting idea and was proposed by Ayatollah Montazeri. Each day of unity week is holy, since it has a great deal of impact on the opinions and views of Islamic nations. Mohammad 'Ali Javid added: Afghans, who are engaged in armed combat against the Eastern superpower to defend their honor and independence, have never felt separated from Iran and never will. Shi'ites and Sunnis in the country have accepted the Imam's leadership, and this week will certainly have a great impact in Afghanistan.

The guests were scheduled to return to Tehran on Sunday, 17 January. However, their return has been delayed due to snow and very bad weather.

CSO: 4640/130

CONTROVERSY OVER SYRIA'S MEDIATION DISCUSSED

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 4 Jan 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] An analysis of the results of the trip taken by the Iranian Foreign Minister to Syria and his meetings and talks with top-ranking Syrian officials is a matter of the greatest significance. Prior to the tour of Arabic countries, by Hafez Assad, the political circumstances in the Middle East were as follows:

1. The issue of 'mediation' in the Iran-Iraq war stood out. Hafez Assad announced that he would be making contacts with the leaders in Tehran with the object of arriving at an international solution to the Iran-Iraq war and after the meeting between Assad and the Emir of Kuwait, it was declared that the two had reached a mutual agreement in regard to the termination of the war. One can reasonably conclude from these moves that it was due to pressures placed upon Hafez Assad Arab heads and imperialist agents that he was forced to speak such words and not through his own personal beliefs or convictions.
2. In case Assad would have acted as an intermediary, relations between Iran and Syria as well as the Steadfastness Front would most likely have been placed under an embarrassing strain because of Iran's emphasis on its rightful positions.
3. On the said hypothesis, the Steadfastness Front would thus have been deprived of the support of Revolutionary Islamic Iran, the most powerful country in the Middle East and the most hard-headed enemy of Israel.
4. After such deprivation the potential of the Steadfastness Front would thus have been deprived of the support of Revolutionary Islamic Iran, the most powerful country in the Middle East and the most hard-headed enemy of Israel.
5. Thus the way would be paved for reconvening the Fez conference next April by the Saudi shahs (Khaled and Fahd) if only to resurrect the Fahd plan after winning the consent of Hafez Assad who has already shown his interest on the issue in an interview.

Weighed by a heavy sense of historical responsibility in such circumstances, the Islamic Republic of Iran dispatched its foreign minister to Damascus.

While the results of the Iranian foreign minister's trip had still to be made known, the imperialists and Zionist propaganda machinery took advantage to use the current regional political situation in their own favor through satanic suggestions. They propagated that:

A--The main purpose behind the trip taken by the Iranian foreign minister was to welcome Syrian mediation in the war.

B--The Islamic Republic of Iran cannot resist against Saddam any longer.

C--Through such propagations they also tried to raise the morale of the collapsing forces of Saddam as well as weakening the spirits of the Islamic Republican combatants.

After the meeting and talks of the Iranian foreign minister and his entourage with high-level Syrian officials including Hafez Assad and Abdul, Halim Khaddam, the Islamic Republic aimed at improving the existing political situation in the region in the higher interests of Islam and Moslems as follows:

A--The Islamic Republic's foreign minister convinced the Syrians that any mediation by that country in the war would result in the stabilization of Saddam, the strengthening of American lackeys in the region and weakening of the Steadfastness Front, besides bringing in several other drawbacks.

B--Through achievements made in regards to the above, the Iranian foreign minister announced bravely in an interview in Damascus that the issue of Syria's mediation in the war had merely been an imperialistic plot and indeed was an immense success.

C--The neutralization of all that might have been impressed on Hafez Assad by the reactionary Arab heads.

D--The declaration of preparation by the Islamic Republic of Iran for starting a practical war against usurping Israel.

E--The revival of the thought of launching an armed struggle against the Zionists.

F--Giving full account of the facts on Saddam's imposed war against the Islamic Republic and assuring the Syrian nation and government of Iran's ability to continue the war until the ultimate downfall of the fascist government of the criminal Saddam, as well as of Iran's willingness and preparedness to embark on a war against Israel simultaneously.

G--Stabilization of progressive positions of the Steadfastness Front.

H--Weakening of the positions of the reactionary Arab heads and those of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in their moves to compromise with Israel.

I--Undoing the fabric of the second Fez Conference and the U.S.-engineered Fahd plan.

J--Shattering the morale of Iraqi forces thoroughly and inspiring the Islamic Republican combatants to continue their honorable Jihad and spur them on to launch new attacks and forward Iranian plans aimed at penultimate goals.

We consider it apt in the context of the present political circumstances that the Supreme Defense Council meets in the presence of the Imam and the military commanders start their study of the plan for penetration into Iraqi territory. It is also after such a session that the Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, Hashemi Rafsanjani has expressed hopes in an interview "in the near future, there will be some news of such penetration."

On the other hand, through this victorious attack on the Iraqi land in an invasion called "La Ilaha Illallah, Muhammadan Rasulallah--there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is Allah's messenger," which resulted in immense losses to Iraqi forces the chivalrous Islamic Forces made real such a hope.

Ultimately, it must be noted that the return of the Islamic-Republic's Foreign Minister from Syria to Iran has coincided with the entry of the Iranian Forces into Iraq. Such a coincidence is a successful outcome of the recent developments for the Islamic Republic and we wish it will confer a blessing on the hard-working Iranian statesmen and the heroic Moslem nation.

CSO: 4600/186

I RAN

ORGANIZATION FOR EXPANSION REGULATES INDUSTRIALIZATION

Tehran SORH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 22 Dec 81 p 5

[Interview with Behruz Shoja'ian, managing director of the Organization for Expansion]

[Text] [Question] Give a brief history of the Organization for Expansion.

[Answer] The Organization for Expansion was established during the period 21 Mar 67-20 Mar 68. Its main goal has been to expand and build up the nation's industries and mines through scientific and industrial studies. Since the period 21 Mar 72-20 Mar 73, it has expanded even more and during 21 Mar 78-20 Mar 79, about 143 units worked under it.

But, unfortunately, it must be said that a series of specific persons had been made shareholders, in the name of the Organization for Expansion. Since this Organization was affiliated with the government, they were easily able to get loans and to plunder the treasury. Hence, we see that most factories had an annual set subsidy for losses in the budget. The managers of these factories could plunder with peace of mind since they knew that they could get funds for the losses from the government. After the revolution, we inherited factories which were in debt and we ran out of funds. This caused our products to be unable to compete in the world market.

Since the revolution, no essential changes have been made. Since everyone has been protesting that the system has not been changed and that the same tyrannical atmosphere exists, this organization has remained [as published].

In response to a question of the correspondent concerning changes which have taken place since his appointment, he said:

[Answer] In the course of this period, I have made basic changes. The important question was the management of the factories and

companies affiliated with us, because the problem centered basically around them. Before I came here, joint management was the policy. In other words, one person was a member of the management of 8-18 companies, including managers whose place of work was in one city while they lived in another. Naturally, they could not serve the factory well. Therefore, we eliminated this format of joint management. We said we would accept management located in the factory which supervises the work. This would prevent a manager who lives here, for instance, from managing a factory in Tabriz. Furthermore, he would have to be committed. In this connection, we changed many of the managers. In the past, many incompetent managers who had bad intentions inflicted deadly blows upon our factories and companies. Because of the workload of the judicial organization, we merely dismissed them. Thusfar, we have dismissed more than 30 persons. Concerning the production units, I must say that the largest production units in many of the above-mentioned fields belong to the Organization for Expansion [as published]. The total investment in these companies (from general government revenues or government loans) amounts to about 200 billion rials. Of course, not all the projects have been completed yet. When they are completed, this figure will be greatly increased. These units are in some areas, such as machine, tractor, and wagon manufacturing; aluminum smelting; ship building; and lumber and paper production, among the first or largest units in the country.

In such cases as the Metal Industries of Iran (formerly Rialko), Shahdsaz (sugar factories), and textile industries--that is, most of the units which existed in the country before and had become unhealthy--renovation investments have been made. In some units, such as cement factories, large investments (about 15 billion rials) have been made to expand the capacity of the factories. Of those companies which engaged in unhealthy and unnecessary activities or those which could have been run by other organizations, after studies were made, a number which were unuseful and showed great losses without offering production or useful services were simply dissolved. Also, some of those whose activities were not reasonably related to the activities of the Organization for Expansion were transferred to other institutions which handle such activities better and are specialized. Some of the companies with similar activities, where there was no need for numerous units in their area of activities, were combined.

In response to our question concerning the basic difficulty of the heavy industries and the change-over from a dependent technology to an independent and self-reliant technology, Mr Shoja'ian said:

[Answer] We inherited a series of factories which were not built on the basis of a clear plan. Their machinery was not standardized and could not serve each other. The factories were made independent of

one another and, on the whole, they did not have the output that they would have had if they were linked to other factories, one feeding another. Now, our job is to coordinate them in a series of long-term programs. Presently, we have factories such as [Lifterak] of Sahand, which paints foreign equipment and writes "[Lifterak], Made in Iran" on it. A small percentage of these items are made in Iran and the main parts are imported from abroad. If we utilize all the resources of the present factories, we can say that we will have an industry in three years. However, if we only want to shout slogans and say, for instance, that Pekan is made in Iran and [Lifterak] of Sahand is also made in Iran, and such, this is neither right nor true. I will give you an example which is unbelievable and seems like a joke. We have a factory in Tabriz called Motor Zhen. This factory used to import electromotors and electric motors from abroad and issue bills of sale. This was all there was to this institution. The company claimed that it completed the motors, stored them, and packed them up when they were ordered. Hence, on the bill of sale, they wrote "complete"; which is to say, they had completely unpacked the machine. Because of this, it charged 10-12 percent more than the actual price of the assembled motor. In addition, since it had unpacked and repacked them, they took up more space and we had to spend twice as much in transportation costs. This motor is brought here and our worker assembles it and says we have produced it.

We asked one of the committed brothers to bring a series of these motors, put them in front of a worker and tell him to unpack and repack them. If the worker asks why and says that he is being made fun of, he should be told, "No, brother, you have been doing just this for a long time without knowing it." Now that this brother of ours has gone there, we will be able to produce all the parts of this motor in two or three years [as published]. During this period, it is possible to comprehend all our resources and use them. On the whole, it can be said that in the next 8-10 years, we will begin to be self-sufficient, God willing.

In response to our correspondent's question about why most large industrial facilities do not have economic output, he said: The main reason is that most of our production items are dependent and we need to import primary material (raw material). For this reason, we cannot build equipment to be sold at a lower price than on the world market. We told our affiliated factories that if revolutionary institutions asked for equipment, they should be given them at the international price (foreign market) and, naturally, they would suffer losses.

In response to our question concerning why the price of industrial machinery has reached uneconomical figures in the market, at an increased rate of about 300 percent, Mr Shoja'ian said:

[Answer] It is true that our distribution is not governed by a correct policy. In the past, most capital investments were focussed on a series of intermediary jobs. A series of items was bought and then sold at higher prices after some time. But, at the present time, our society is not receptive to this type of thing. Hence, those who have capital have moved toward productive activities, which has resulted in equipment being provided for production. And the production organizations of the country cannot fill demands since they lack the resources. The black market, which causes inflation throughout the society, is the result.

It was asked why small industrial units are not being supported.

[Answer] A number of people have put their capital into productive activities. Also, a number of people are afraid to invest in production activities, due to the fact that the Majlis has not clarified the limitations on ownership. Therefore, they are holding on to their capital and this action as well depends on the investment laws.

It was asked what the program will be in the future. He answered:

[Answer] Since the Organization for Expansion is moving towards heavy industries and, in the past, it had some 140 odd units, of which 15 factories have been transferred to the Organization for National Industries [as published]. From textile, cement, and food production, 67 factories have been transferred from the Organization for National Industries to the Organization for Expansion. This has been done because of their similarity. On the whole, this organization will gradually become the Organization for Heavy Industries and we will have a specific program for each one of these. In other words, we will not make ourselves dependent on having several kinds of motors and we will thus free ourselves of diversity. We will specify, for instance, what factories we will have to manufacture tractors, water wells, or power motors.

In conclusion, we must mention the Islamic societies, which have been very useful, having brought the factories out of stagnation and idleness and, at times, having offered very good, implementable, revolutionary plans, for which we thank them.

0500

CSO: 4640/112

BAKHTIAR'S PAPER DISCUSSES IRAN-SOVIET RELATIONS

Paris NEHZAT in Persian 3 Dec 81 pp 12, 6, 9

[Text] It is becoming more apparent every day that there are two major political currents within the ruling body of the Islamic Republic. We shall call these two currents, in short, the Tudeh and anti-Tudeh factions, which have been wrestling one another since the start of Khomeyni's conspiracy, despite the fact that, out of political necessity, they have made a deal with each other. For instance, the Tudeh Party had a determining role in the downfall of the government of Bazargan, which benefitted Bani-Sadr. During his presidency, too, Abolhasan Bani-Sadr had some transactions with the Tudeh Party, especially with regard to the uncovering of various coup attempts and the murders of the Iranian officers and nationalists, which have been confessed to by both sides.

But, apart from these convenient transactions, there is the relationship of the Islamic Republic with the northern neighbor. It would be interesting to study this issue more thoroughly, under circumstances when there are signs of differences between the two governments or rumors are heard about the coolness of their relationship.

Undoubtedly, the Soviet Union did not look favorably in the beginning upon the change of regimes in Iran. However, when it became clear to the politicians of this country that the events could not be prevented, they expended all their efforts to take advantage of the situation.

Various opposing factions in Iran considered U.S. imperialism the main enemy. Opposition to the United States was increasing and this was considered a very positive development according to general Soviet policy. After this re-evaluation of the situation in Iran, the Tudeh Party began its cooperation with Khomeyni. During the stay of the "imam" in France, Mohammad (Mokri), who later became an ambassador, and Babak Amir-Khosravi, one of the old leaders of the Tudeh Party, were the contacts between Khomeyni and the Soviet embassy.

The most important and most significant benefit that the Soviet government gained from the Islamic revolution was during the hostage-taking, which was carried out with the close cooperation and planning of the Tudeh Party and the combative student movement and by the so-called students following the line of the imam. It put the United States in a political impasse and made the occupation of Afghanistan possible without fear of violent reaction from Washington.

Chaos and instability in Iran, and consequently in the region, also benefited the Soviet Union. And the war in Kurdistan, in the instigation of which the Tudeh elements and, once again, Mohammad (Mokri) had a hand, took its place within the framework of the ongoing policy of this superpower as a background for the probable division of Iran, and the war with Iraq hurt the sale of oil to the West. These events together worked to decrease the influence and credibility of the United States, given the past experiences of world power. No proof is needed that this issue is of extreme importance to the Soviet Union.

But there were also behind-the-scene events, the mention of which would help in the understanding of this subject.

In the first so-called "spring of freedom," the modern radar equipment of Behshahr was dismantled and moved to the other side of the border. Some of the American weapons, especially the phantoms, also met with the same fate.

The news of the re-mapping of the Iranian plateau by Soviet airplanes was also published a long time ago in one of the issues of KEYHAN.

The secret files of the second division of the military were also presented to their big brothers. The famous (Moqarrabi) file was sold to them for one million dollars along with such things as receivers and broadcast equipment, by one of the guerrilla political organizations.

One of the reasons for the occupation of the embassy was also the interest of those friends in the U.S. intelligence system, which, at that time, was still in place.

In addition to the economic embargo and the war, they came up with another pretext for various profitable transactions and mutual contracts and with "mutual coexistence and respect" they actually became a source of income for each other.

Finally, the influence of the intelligence elements of the Tudeh Party and some of the personnel during the time of Habibollah Peyman, in the army, gendarmerie, prime minister's office, and the guards corps, has reached its peak in a region like Torkaman Sahra and

provides Moscow with many resources to directly interfere in the determination of national policy.

There is, however, another side of the coin, which concerns the anti-Tudeh faction.

An American Middle East expert wrote some time ago in an article that the Soviet Union gained less than it had expected from the Iranian situation and that the enmity of religious extremists with communism was and will be the main impediment to the influence of the Soviet Union in the Islamic Republic.

This view is a reminder of Brzezinski and his green belt theory, which tested out badly. But, in the article mentioned above, there is a general evaluation of the relations between the two countries which is not far from the truth. The writer believes that some aspects of the policy of the Republic create certain problems for the Soviet Union and differences have developed between the two governments.

We intend to deal with these differences, which have been considered, since two months ago, by news agencies and political observers as signs of the cooling off of relations between the two countries.

Of course, noting that the occupation of Afghanistan occurred two years ago, the differences could not concern this new case; although today, the presence of Afghan refugees in Iran, especially that group whose center for political activities is in Qom and which receives large amounts of arms and money from the treasury of the Islamic Republic, has escalated the differences. Of utmost importance is the reaction of the puppet government of Kabul to the plan of the Islamic Republic, terming it reactionary, which angered Khomeyni supporters.

Concerning the war with Iraq, too, Khameneh'i, who is Khomeyni's president today, in the early months of the conflict, praised the seemingly even-handed policy of the Soviet Union and declared that this policy of the Soviet Union would naturally affect the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic. However, both Khameneh'i and others know that a significant amount of arms and equipment made in the Soviet Union and Eastern bloc countries have been supplied to Iraq many times through the Jordanian Port of Akaba.

International news agencies, especially the Israeli news agency, have not remained silent in this regard.

The reactions of the authorities of the Islamic Republic to these kinds of issues depend on the faction to which they belong. But, in a crisis situation, a person like Khameneh'i is also forced to criticize Radio Melli [National Radio], which is located in Soviet

Azerbaijan, since this radio station broadcasts critical issues about the Islamic Republic.

It has not been long since these criticisms have been made public. The first time that the Soviet Union verbally attacked the Islamic Republic, one of the high authorities of Soviet Armenia strongly criticized, in particular, the fact that Iranian natural gas had not been piped. Obviously, if no more important problems than this existed between the two sides, a high-ranking official would not have been instructed to use such a harsh, aggressive tone against the Islamic Republic about such a subject.

There are more important problems, such as the relationship of the Soviet Union with the PLO. We know that Yaser Arafat asked Moskow to send arms to Iraq. You know that he has also mediated to reconcile Saudi Arabia with the Soviet Union and has had the Kremlin endorse the Fahd proposal. This is due to the fact that because of the present difficulties of the Soviet authorities in Poland and Afghanistan, they lean towards giving certain concessions to moderate countries. Khomeyni's strong opposition to this proposal will naturally escalate the differences between the two policies.

All these factors together have been used by the anti-Tudeh faction. However, unlike the American Middle East expert, we do not conclude that the Soviet Union has retreated from Iran. The deal between the superpowers over Iran in the larger world market has not yet been concluded. Their agents are also testing their power within the ruling body of the Islamic Republic.

0593
C30: 4640/109

CLANDESTINE ON BAKHTIAR'S VIEWS ON IRAN'S FUTURE

NC201120 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] Economically speaking, the mullahs have brought the country to the point where the regime has now extended a begging hand to (?seven) world banks for a loan to be used to furnish the minimum quantity of rationed foodstuffs. Contrary to its empty claim of "neither East nor West," the regime intends, by receiving large loans, to make the nation more dependent on the Eastern and Western superpowers and, with this "revolutionary act," to "inflict a strong blow on the world-devouring America" as it did before. In addition, this week's news indicates that the regime's leaders realize that the prevailing conditions cannot continue. Therefore, they have started thinking about sacrificing some of their number to save themselves.

Following their attacks on the Mojahedin and other groups, now the regime's leaders have (?aimed at their head physician), the Tudeh Party, thinking that by showing that they are struggling against Communism they can once again receive the support of the big Western countries. (?Naturally), no foreigner feels sorry for Iran or the Iranians, and it is likely that the so-called free world will work to strengthen the clerical regime's position instead of stopping its cooperation in order to ensure more benefits from the mullahs, who have (?no feelings for the nation or the country) and who are prepared to sell their birth-right for a mess of pottage.

What we want to ask is: Who is to blame for all these losses in lives, and financial and spiritual losses imposed on our country and for the dangers that exist for the future? Are Khomeyni and his hypocritical clique the only ones to blame for these incidents? Isn't the role being played by those who claim to lead society and who--for the sake of opportunism and selfishness--have been pouring oil on the fire of Khomeyni and his bloodthirsty regime for 3 years not bigger or at least equal to the part played by Khomeyni? Shouldn't the massacre of children, the stoning of women, the execution by firing squad of young patriotic officers, the killing of nationalists, intellectuals and authors, the decimation of all freedoms, the plundering of public funds, the destruction stemming from the war imposed by Khomeyni on the Iranian nation, as well as the shouts, cries and mourning of thousands of mothers for their children have the least effect on the conscience of these people who claim leadership? Aren't all

these calamities that have befallen our nation enough to arouse the generosity of these claimants and to bridle their (?demon) thirst for blood and opportunism?

From the very start of its existence and the declaration of the principles of its thought, the national resistance movement of Iran has stated that every Iranian with any taste or thought can join in toppling Khomeyni's regime only by accepting the principles of freedom and independence so that, on the basis of the 1906 constitution--the payment in blood of our fathers--we can choose the future path according to the will and opinion of the nation. These people ask what guarantee is there that after toppling Khomeyni's regime and establishing a provisional government we will do what we have said? Of course, in view of the fact that so far all those who claim to be patriots and supporters of freedom have acted contrary to their statements, everyone should be given the right of once bitten twice shy and to suspect (?others). The proof of what we say is the way Dr Bakhtiar, the leader of the movement, acted during his 37 days as prime minister and who, despite the prevailing unfavorable conditions, did what he promised. He kept to his promises in an atmosphere where even intellectuals, authors, academicians and those claiming to lead society surrendered blindly to feelings and to the atmosphere made and polished by foreigners instead of relying on logic and (?their conscience) and did not want to fathom the reality and danger that threatened the future of the country.

Now, too, these same people are once again surrendering to opinions, which will result in the replacement of people or groups who, if not worse than Khomeyni, will not be better than him. In view of this, the question is why should we resist respecting the desires of the people and (?refuse to surrender to) the nation's will by propounding wrong paths and ignore national sovereignty and the rule of law and give ourselves the right to be the people's guardians and to determine the proper course that they should pursue? Hasn't all that has happened to us so far because of the lack of attention to low been sufficient?

CSO: 4640/130

CLANDESTINE ON PROGRAMS OF OTHER CLANDESTINE

NC221003 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 Jan 82

[Text] A clandestine transmitter called Radio Iran, which can be heard in Iran, is broadcasting a series of programs analyzing the 37 days of Shapur Bakhtiar's premiership. In its 16th talk in the series, this radio revealed foreign plots in Iran. This program explained Bakhtiar's efforts to neutralize these plots. Clandestine Radio Iran said: The shah had foreseen (?three) short-term, medium-term and long-term strategies for the preservation of Iran's independence. The short-term strategy, which was to last 10 years, foresaw Iran maintaining close relations with the United States. The medium-term strategy, ranging from 10 to 20 years, planned the expansion of Iran's relations with European countries and (?China). Finally, in the long-term strategy the objective was to bring Iran to the stage of civilization and power that would not allow the superpowers to intervene in Iran's internal affairs. The radio said: The shah always considered the possibility of the danger of a transaction over Iran between the United States and the Soviet Union and for this reason he tried to make the world to turn not from two poles but from multi-poles. As a result the United States strongly opposed the shah's policy fearing Iran's cooperation with the (?Europeans).

Today's program of Clandestine Radio Iran discusses the remarks by U.S. author Robert Dreyfus on the creation of a green Islamic belt and U.S. and British plots to neutralize the shah's attempts as well as prevent Soviet penetration. He said the Muslim brotherhood led by Jamaleddin Afghani always played a basic role in Britain's policy and now at last the Muslim brotherhood has gained power in Iran as a result of the U.S. and British plan.

CSO: 4600/197

BRIEFS

IRAN-PLO RELATIONS--Differences of opinion between Khomeyni and his past ally Yasir 'Arafat are increasing every day. For the first time a PLO member has severely criticized and attacked the ayatollah's regime. Khalid al-Hasan, member of the central committee of this organization, in an interview with a Bahraini newspaper has said that Iran is facing chaos and unrest and that it is impossible for any organization or country to have normal relations with Khomeyni's regime as every ayatollah has his own system. Referring to the Islamic coup plot in Bahrain, Khalid al-Hasan has said that the plan was not only aimed at toppling the Bahraini Government but was also aimed at all the countries of the region. He added that Persian Gulf countries should establish a united front against the mullahs' regime and its dangers. This is the first time that the (?PLO) has directly responded to the Islamic regime following Khomeyni's attack on Yasir 'Arafat and his declaration that he was a U.S. mercenary and zionist agent. It is worthy to note that Palestinian guerrillas were once Khomeyni's allies and that with terrorism and the killing of innocent people during demonstrations, and with arson and attacks against garrisons, they aided Khomeyni in realizing his revolt. Well-informed sources have reported that Palestinian guerrillas are fighting against Khomeyni's guards on the southern fronts. [Text] [GF151748 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 13 Jan 82]

SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S MEETING--According to the Voice of Iran correspondent, Vladimir Vinogradov, the Soviet ambassador in Tehran, met with the mullahs' deputy foreign minister Sunday afternoon. Citing well-informed sources, our correspondent reports that the meeting was held to discuss in detail the export of Soviet-made weapons to the mullahs' government. Citing the same sources, our correspondent adds that the weapons needed by the mullahs' regime were discussed with Soviet officials by Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam during his talks Saturday. Officials of Khomeyni's regime, who are not willing to reveal their cooperation with the Soviet Union, are maintaining contact with the USSR through their only friend in the region--Syria. [Text] [GF180545 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 18 Jan 82]

WORKERS' STRIKES--The Iran national factory has become the center of strikes and clashes between workers and criminal guards who have been asked to take action by the Workers' Islamic Society. The Free Voice of Iran has continuously reported the news of these strikes and clashes. According to our correspondent, the main reason for the unrest in the Iran national factory is that Khomeyni regime officials have not only cut all the benefits of the workers but have also

deprived them from obtaining yearly licenses to buy Peykan cars, which are sold now on the open market at exorbitant prices. Cutting all these benefits has created a financial crisis for the workers. To protest this oppression, workers of the Iran national factory have launched a struggle. They have transformed the factory into a strong trench of struggle against Khomeyni's Islamic Republic. Moreover, the Khomeyni regime 2 years ago abolished the workers' share in the factories' profit. That share was approved under the previous regime for the benefit of the workers. This antiworker decision by the regime has been protested by the nation's workers. [Text] [GF190700 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 18 Jan 82]

ASSASSINATION OF OFFICIAL--Following the report dispatched yesterday by a Free Voice of Iran correspondent on the Ahvaz revolution prosecutor, our correspondent explained today that Sheikh (Ramazan 'Ali Shahvand), who was assassinated by two combatant Iranian [words indistinct], was also deputy prosecutor of Bandar-e Abbas and in charge of the so-called Ahvaz Islamic Revolution Court's (?prosecutor's office). Next on the list of assassinations to be carried out by Iranian combatants is the Ahvaz Islamic prosecutor. [Text] [NC191803 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 19 Jan 82]

OIL EXPERTS TO LIBYA--A Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports that an amalgamated company consisting of Iranian and Libyan oil experts is to be formed. According to this report 200 Iranian oil experts will be sent to the Arab country of Libya to work in Libyan oil units. The Iranian experts are to replace the U.S. experts who recently left Libya. At a time when Iran's oil industry is paralyzed because of lack of attention by the clerical regime and Iranian experts should be employed in the reconstruction of our country's oil installations, the regime of the mullahs of Tehran is sending oil experts to Libya. [Text] [NC191757 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 19 Jan 82]

BAKHTIAR DECENTRALIZATION VIEWS--The Clandestine Radio Iran, the voice of which can be heard in Iran, has carried the 14th talk in its special programs devoted to the premiership of Shapur Bakhtiar. This afternoon the radio discussed the views of the former Iranian prime minister in relation to the activities of foreign experts, decentralization in the country's administrative affairs, the role of the plan and budget organization and the mode of fighting against inflation. In this program Dr Shapur Bakhtiar said that the administration of the country's affairs should not be concentrated in the center, and many affairs relating to towns, villages and provinces should be transferred to the people in the region themselves, while matters that lead to our unity, independence and respect in the society of nations should be administered from the center. [Text] [NC191751 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 19 Jan 82]

MEMBERS ARRESTED, DOCUMENTS SEIZED--According to the central news unit, the public relations office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced that with the cooperation of the members of the party of God and the 36-million strong intelligence organization, the publishing center of the blasphemous Ranjbaran minigroup in Tehran was discovered by the brothers from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. With the discovery of this publishing center, a few members of

the Ranjbaran, an American group, were arrested and a number of weapons and a great quantity of organizational documents and plans for assassination and acts of sabotage were seized. The seized documents show that this minigroup has had close contacts with counterrevolutionary minigroups in the north and that it has played a role in armed uprising against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [Text] [LD191958 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jan 82]

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES ESFAHAN FRIDAY IMAM--The Friday Imam of Esfahan, accompanied by all the other Friday imams representing Esfahan Province and (Chahar Mahal) and Bakhtiari, has been received by Imam Khomeyni. Addressing the visitors, Imam Khomeyni said: The harm dealt Islam and all other religions by deviated and unclear individuals is greater than anything else. The leader of the revolution stressed: What is of top priority for all of us is self-purification and, in conjunction with this, the purification of the people. If one is not pure oneself, then one cannot induce purification in others. The imam of the Umma then said: All Islamic issues, even political issues, concern purification; they all deal with transformation of man. We must not subject all problems to political issues. The hope of the oppressed peoples of the world stressed: No other revolution has been subjected to such assault as the Iranian revolution. Other revolutions were of either left or rightwing tendency. If they were leftist, then they had the leftists support, with the rightwing opposing them. If they were rightwing, then they had the support of these groups, while being opposed by the other. [Text] [LD201202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jan 82]

DISTRIBUTORS OF PAMPHLETS WARNED--The Islamic Revolution prosecutor in Kazerun strongly warned affiliated minigroups today. In a communique the prosecutor's office, while describing the activities of the godless mercenary foreign agents, who like bats distribute night pamphlets citywide, warned that the school of Islam and the Holy Koran have a punishment for the rebellious and those waging war against God and his messenger. The Islamic Revolution courts of Kazerun will decisively carry out this [punishment] against traitors. In this warning the Kazerun Islamic prosecutor's office asked the Hezbollahi nation to do its best in cooperating with law enforcement agencies, revolution guards, mobilization of the oppressed forces and other forces to quickly capture these (?warmongering) infidels. [Text] [GF211236 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 20 Jan 82]

USSR MILITARY COOPERATION--The ambassador of the Soviet Union--the country that assists and cooperates with Khomeyni's regime--met with Ahmad 'Azizi, a Tudeh communist who is a deputy in Khomeyni's Foreign Ministry, and announced the Soviet Union's readiness for further military and security cooperation with Khomeyni's regime. According to a Free Voice of Iran correspondent's report, Ahmad 'Azizi's meeting with the Soviet ambassador comes after a recent meeting between Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the clerical regime's prime minister, with Vinogradov, the Soviet ambassador in Tehran. In this meeting, the Soviet ambassador asked the Khomeyni regime to sign a friendship pact between the two countries to confront opponents of the regime. The Free Voice of Iran correspondent's report states that Ahmad 'Azizi assured the Soviet ambassador in Tehran that Khomeyni's regime continues to support the Soviet Union's policies. It should be noted that recently a number of Soviet experts in security, military and economic fields were sent to Iran. [Text] [NC202246 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 20 Jan 82]

MILITARY AID TO IRAQ--According to an IRNA report, details of the military aid from some of the reactionary regimes who are dependent on Saddam were discovered during the enemy's escape from Nevsan and the capture of the bases of the Ba'thist aggressors by the forces of Islam. A large number of boxes of various ammunition imprinted with the insignia and coats of arms of these governments which had been put at the disposal of Saddam's criminal regime, have been discovered. The discovery of these boxes shows the mass conspiracy of the regimes which are dependent on the United States against the Islamic Revolution. [Text] [LD211828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jan 82]

PREMIER URGES OPPOSITION UNITY--Paris, 19 Jan (AFP)--Former Iranian Prime Minister 'Ali Amini today called on the Iranian opposition to unite to overthrow the Tehran Government. Mr Amini, 77, prime minister under the shah from 1961-62, told a press conference opposition forces should unite to form a provisional government. If the Iranian Government were overthrown, the form of the future government would be decided by "the will of the people," he said. Mr Amini said his stand was supported by former Premier Shapur Bakhtiar, and Admiral Ahmad Madani, a former defence minister. He also claimed support from Monarchist and Shi'ite religious groups opposed to Ayatollah Khomevni. He added that although he had had no contacts with former President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr or the Iranian left, he believed there were "points of agreement." [Text] [NC191414 Paris AFP in English 1336 GMT 19 Jan 82]

U.S. 'VIOLATION' COMPLAINT--Mr Behzad Nabavi, the minister of state for executive affairs, in a press interview announced that the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has submitted a complaint to the Hague Court in connection with the violation of the United States in carrying out the Algerian statement. Mr Nabavi said: The United States has not returned the assets of Iran and has also refused to submit a list of the wealth and assets of the deceased shah in the United States. [Text] [LD192021 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 19 Jan 82]

REVOLUTION PRINTING WORKS DISMANTLED--Tehran, 20 Jan (AFP)--Security forces have dismantled a printing works of the Maoist opposition group Ranjbaran, seizing documents proving its links with "counter-revolutionary" organizations, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC reported today. The ruling fundamentalist party's newspaper said that Ranjbaran were involved with counter-revolutionaries in the northern provinces, carrying "revolution against the Islamic Republic." It added that several "American elements" involved with Ranjbaran had been arrested. Numerous leaders of the Marxist parties Tudeh and of the "minority Fedaveen" and of other organizations had been arrested recently in the north of the country, notably in Mazandaran and Semnan Provinces. ISLAMIC REPUBLIC also reported that a school in Gilan Province in Gilan Province had been severely damaged by a people's committee which attacked it with grenades. [Text] [NC200951 Paris AFP in English 0900 GMT 20 Jan 82]

RECEIVED PRISONERS--Paris, 21 Jan (AFP)--Fifty-five prisoners, most of them former political officers, have been freed in an amnesty decreed by revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomevni to mark the anniversary of the

birth of the prophet and the week of unity, the ETTELA'AT newspaper reported here today. The prisoners were held in Kurdistan, in the northwest, and in Shiraz, in southern Iran, the paper said. [Text] [NC211832 Paris AFP in English 1826 GMT 21 Jan 82]

INVITATION TO PRISONERS' RELATIVES--The minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran today told our reporter that the invitation extended by the prime minister to the families of the Iraqi prisoners of war to come to Iran and visit their sons is a human manifestation of the Islamic Republic of Iran and a response to the baseless lies of Saddam and his supporters regarding the unfair treatment of the Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran. Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati added: In this regard, Iran, with the Red Cross society's representative (?office) in Iran and International Red Cross in Geneva, have announced that the parents of the Iraqi prisoners of war can come to Iran to visit their sons [word indistinct]. The foreign minister of Iran, Mr Velayati, presiding the next meeting [as heard] of the members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, said: Iran extends its support to any unity or pact which serves the unity and closeness of the Muslims. [Word indistinct] the support of Western and Zionist mass media extended to this council showed that this will not serve the interests of the Islamic states. The foreign minister, referring to the fact that Iran possesses the longest coast (?in) the Persian Gulf, is the strongest power of this region and will have the last word in this regard. [Text] [LD212148 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 21 Jan 82]

ARYANA'S SUPPORT FOR AMINI--Following the publication of Dr 'Ali Amini's interview, Gen Bahram Aryana, who is near the Iranian border with the military personnel under his command, declared in a cable his support for Dr 'Ali Amini. [Text] [NC201654 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 20 Jan 82]

SEMINAR ENDS--The central news unit reports that the seminar of Iran's charges d'affaire and ambassadors in Africa, which started last week in Tehran, has ended. During this seminar cultural, political, economic and military issues of the African continent were discussed: At the end decisions were made on expanding Iran's relations with African Governments. This seminar was commissioned following the announcement of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the shift of emphasis on political activities from America and Europe to Asia and Africa. [Text] [LD211146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jan 82]

CSO: 4600/197

OBJECTIVES OF STRATEGIC COOPERATION DISCUSSED

Ba'ath AL-THAQAH in Arabic 5 Oct 81 p 3

Article by Muhammad Hijazi: "U.S.-Zionist Strategic Cooperation and Its Aggressive Objectives"

Text: The nationalization of oil is a strategic objective.

"The nationalization of oil is one of the revolution's strategic objectives; it is also the objective of the Arab socialist Ba'th party which has proclaimed nationally that 'Arab oil is for Arabs'."

--From the Political Report of the Eighth Regional Conference, January 1974.

The strategic cooperation agreement between the United States and the Zionist entity shattered the last illusions that some Arabs may have been entertaining at Washington applying pressure on the Zionist entity or assuming a "fair" position on their side. Hopes about the so-called "neutralization of America" or the achievement of a just settlement in the 1973 were soon shattered. It was now became evident that the settlement which is required is comprised in total subjugation and across the board capitulation to U.S.-Zionist conditions and plans; extension of the Camp David accords to include other Arabs, now that Egypt is part of them; and alignment of the Arabs with their Zionist enemy in a new aggressive military alliance led by the United States of America.

In an interview, which spanned for the American news agency, United Press, referred to this fact. It was Jefferson, who had accompanied formerly President Carter and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and accompanied several times in the course of their visits to the area, who said that Kissinger at an early date in the morning after the treacherous Camp David Agreement was visited by Carter, Begin and al-Sadat.

Jefferson said that it is true after the interview is the fact that we have an agreement offically, even though this offical is not official and in fact in its early stages, the United States is ultimately determined to expand its alliance, but the so-called alliance has not yet been completed."

Thus the idea of replacing the existing Zionist threat against the Arab nation with an imaginary one or in the worst cases with a remote and a probable threat which U.S. policy calls "the Soviet threat" is not a Reagan idea. This idea actually antedates Reagan, Carter and even John Foster Dulles and has existed in U.S. policy ever since the Zionist entity was created.

With Egypt out of the confrontation against the Zionist danger, Iraq has emerged as the greatest Arab force. By convening the ninth Arab summit conference in Baghdad Iraq was able to stop the impending breakdown in the area which followed the announcement of the Camp David conspiracy. And here it must be affirmed that what came out of the Baghdad summit conference and the conference of Arab ministers of foreign affairs and the economy was the only proper response that could have been made to the conspiracy. It was also the least response that could have been made. However, the true preservation of this minimum which was manifested in the Baghdad Conference format lay in developing that minimum itself and abiding to the resolutions of the Baghdad summit.

It became necessary for U.S.-Zionist policy to concentrate its attack against Iraq. The new rulers of Iran whose relations are suspect were prodded to wage their aggressive war against our country for the purpose of hurting it. They were at least prodded to distract our country and to keep it away from the battle against the Zionist enemy.

The Reagan administration picked up where the Carter administration had left off. Last spring U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig toured the Arab region. He visited the Zionist entity and some "friendly" Arab countries. Under cover of "the Soviet threat" Haig tried to achieve a strategic agreement between the United States and its allies in the area. This would be followed by these countries offering the United States facilities and military bases [that can be used] for aggression. The national sovereignty of these countries would be squandered for the benefit of the United States and especially its rapid deployment forces.

Despite increasing pressure from Haig on U.S. allies in the area, some were compelled to affirm that the threat to the Arab nation has been and will continue to be the Zionist enemy. It is the Zionist enemy that is attacking the Arab nation, usurping its land and driving its people out of their homes. Others, however, were not able to proclaim publicly that their fear of the Soviets was much greater than their hatred for the Zionists and their aggressive entity.

As the hopes which the United States and the Zionists had staked, with the collusion and cooperation of Tehran's rulers, on the Persian aggression against Iraq were dashed, Zionist airlines made in the United States flooded the nuclear July reactor which had been prepared for the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

But the aggression that came about as part of the U.S. strategy in the area did not realize any of its objectives.

"holding the U.S. hostage, attacking Iraq and threatening other Arabian Gulf states the rulers of Iran paved the way for the United States to intensify its military presence in the Indian Ocean, in the Arabian Sea and in the Arabian Gulf. They paved the way for Washington to set itself up as the protector of the Gulf's security. This was followed by growing pressures on the Gulf states.

Haig said, "U.S. interests in the Middle East can only be protected by a strategy that ignores neither regional complications nor the danger of outside intervention."

The Haig added, "This is the reason why the United States is seeking close strategic cooperation with Israel, with Egypt and with numerous other specific countries."

It is no secret that ever since the tenure of John Foster Dulles U.S. policy has considered any country that was not with it to be against it. Friends of the United States had to become fully involved in serving U.S. plans without questioning them. Enemies of the United States had to be wiped out. There was no room here for "non-alignment" or for "moderation." "Non-aligned" countries were to be treated as though they were enemies until they could be brought around.

Through its large oil corporations the United States was able to take away from the Arabs their most important weapon: oil. Oil companies created an artificial glut in the international oil market, and that actually affected the price structure. Oil revenues of most Arab oil countries fell, and this jeopardized the implementation of their development plans. In addition, it also jeopardized the aid these countries were giving to other developing countries.

In the context of preparing the climate for the new U.S.-Zionist alliance Zionist aggression in Lebanon has escalated.

It was during al-Siddat's visit to the United States last August and his meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan that al-Siddat's role in implementing the new U.S. strategy in the area was defined. With the Zionist enemy becoming the United States' preferred and more important ally, Egypt was entrusted with parts of the functions of the American policeman in the area.

The case of al-Siddat was unusual, one by origin in Alexandria and another time in Berlin in Washington as a result of the fact that efforts to normalize relations between Egypt and the Zionist entity had been sluggish and half-hearted. The ruler of Egypt, before classes began in universities and secondary schools, openly launched his broad campaign of universal repression what he himself called "democratic annihilation." The oppression and torture of all the forces often opposed the normalization of relations with the Zionists accounts. Patriotic sedition was used as an excuse, and threats against people were trumped up. A man as patriotic as Gamal Abd al-Nasser, the patriarch of Egyptian Copts cannot, for

example, be sectarian. He was the one who prevented the official Coptic mission from going on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem because the Holy City is under Zionist occupation. Al-Sadat considered this a challenge and an act to foil his efforts to normalize relations with the Zionist enemy.

The strategic cooperation between the United States and the Zionist entity came within this plan and in this context. It constituted the most important part of the process of building the new aggressive alliance. In fact it was the very core of that alliance whose objective is to subjugate the Arabs fully to U.S.-Zionist interests.

The danger of this strategic cooperation becomes evident in the makeup of the Zionist delegation that accompanied Begin. It is also evident in the intense secret talks that Begin held with U.S. officials. There were lengthy and intense talks between Ronald Reagan and Menahem Begin, talks between Secretary of State Alexander Haig and his Zionist counterpart Yitzhak Shamir; and talks between the U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and the Zionist minister of Defense Ariel Sharon.

The significant detailed talks about military cooperation between the two sides were conducted in Washington by the chief of staff of the Zionist enemy's army, (Raphael Iytan). He met with U.S. assistant undersecretary of defense for research and engineering, Richard Baylor; with Chief of Staff Edward Meese; and with Gen Robert Barrow commander of the Marine Corps.

The Zionist minister of war Ariel Sharon revealed some aspects of the strategic military agreement between Washington and Tel Aviv. He said that among the important point of the agreement were cooperation in manufacturing weapons; storing large quantities of U.S. military supplies in occupied Palestine; and conducting joint military maneuvers for surface, air and naval forces.

Sharon announced that the talks that will be held next November between the leaders of the Zionist entity and the U.S. secretary of defense were extremely important. A comprehensive agreement on military cooperation would be signed during those talks. He said, "The United States should not consider this a concession on its part."

Sharon spoke about the benefits that will accrue to the United States as a result of the strategic military cooperation. He claimed that the Zionist entity exercised strategic control in the east Mediterranean and in the Gulf area. He affirmed that his forces constituted an umbrella of protection for any military campaign. He said that storage of U.S. military supplies in occupied Palestine was a matter of principal importance to U.S. strategy in the area.

This is the U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance, the cornerstone of the new aggressive military alliance in the area. Its purpose is to make other parts of the Arab nation join the alliance so that all would turn into subordinates serving U.S. anti-Zionist interests.

IRAQ

GROWTH OF EXPORTS DESPITE STATE OF WAR EMPHASIZED

Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 28 Sep 81 p 4

[Report on an interview with Mr Fu'ad 'Abd-al-Majid, President of the Public Organization for Exports by Tahir Mahdi al-Hashimi; date and place of interview not specified: "The Public Organization for Exports Carries Out Its Functions during the Year of War; Our Goods Prepared for Export Reach All Foreign Markets"]

[Text] The Arabs' Qadisiyah, Saddam's Qadisiyah, has produced in the 20th century many cases, [of achievements] that have been splendid and positive. The achievements that appeared in our new life and coincided with the progress of military operations all along the battlefronts have also been numerous.

Among these achievements are the strength of the domestic front which is treading the same uphill path to the battlefield and the strength of the national economy with all its particulars and its branches: importing, marketing, storing, producing and exporting. Such a unique case can rarely be found in any country of the world which lived through a state of war even for a limited period of time.

One year after the aggression in our country, Iraq, began on 4 September, we interviewed 'r Hasan 'Ali, member of the Revolutionary Command Council, and we interviewed a number of president of organizations in the commercial sector. They talked about the distinguishing features of our national economy: its soundness, its strength, prosperity, the stability of the market, the abundance of goods and the abundance of reserve provisions of various materials which ensure that needs are met for a long period of time. Today we interview another official in the commercial sector: Mr Fu'ad 'Abd-al-Majid, president of the Public Organization for Export.

Our Qadisiyah Unleashed the Energies of all Iraqis

We asked him, "We know that your organization was able to open a number of commercial centers in numerous countries of the world and that it was able to find markets for our national products in recent years. Did you maintain this situation during the past year, the year of the war, or is the situation different now?"

He said, "Let me begin by saying that the Arabs' second Qadisiyah, Saddam's Qadisiyah has had a major positive effect on the production channels of our economy and on citizens' morale. It participated in unleashing the energies of the Iraqi people and mobilizing their capabilities. It created in them the spirit of initiative and creativity and it upgraded the methods of production. This was reflected on our economic condition, and we were able to devise a broad export plan that was based on the new changes which came about during Iraq's war with the ignorant Persian enemy who thought that the Iraqi economy would be negatively affected by the war. But we surprised everybody by continuing to export our products. Our institutions of production improved their performance and increased their production capacity. We thus met the needs of foreign markets, and our commercial centers continued to operate with growing determination."

Direct and Indirect Exporting

Mr 'Abd-al-Majid indicated that the organization had adopted two methods in exporting: the direct and the indirect method. The first one is carried out by agencies which are affiliated with the organization; the second is carried out by private firms and is licensed by the organization. Mr 'Abd-al-Majid added, "Despite Iran's repeated attacks on our country, Iraq, before 4 September 1980 and after that date, the organization made quick strides to meet its contract obligations and carry out the plan in a careful manner that is consistent with Iraq's prestige and power. The volume of exports for the aforementioned year exceeded 63 million dinars. Iraq thus realized a 30.5 percent increase over the 1979 volume of exports. The increase in exports occurred primarily in direct exports which constituted 96 percent of the organization's total export activity. The value of the organization's exports rose by 31.9 percent over the value of exports for 1979. The value of indirect exports rose 0.5 percent over what it was last year. It is worth noting as we talk about these increases that exports this year were higher than they were last year. A few days ago, for example, we signed an agreement with Greece which will import dates from us for the first time."

Iraq Increasing Aid to Some Countries Despite War

"Not only that," adds the president of the organization, "but the organization has also carried through part of the aid that Iraq had offered some fraternal and friendly countries. This is attributable to the strength, soundness and capability of our economy."

We asked the president of the organization, "Did you take the matter of geographical distribution into consideration in your export plan?"

"Yes, we furnish our goods which are prepared for export to the markets of various international groups. These are as follows:

"Our exports to non-socialist Asian countries in 1980 realized a 40.7 percent increase over 1979. Our exports to the group of socialist countries rose during the same year by 61 percent, compared with the previous year.

We attach importance to the group of Arab countries when we draw up our export plans. The group of western European countries received 3.65 percent of the organization's total exports. Exports to the countries of North America held 1.46 percent of the organization's exports. Our exports to Australia and New Zealand in 1980 rose by 48.7 percent over what they were in 1979."

We asked the president of the organization, "What is the role of the commercial centers in the export process you are undertaking?"

He said, "Our commercial centers played a major role in the export process. We rely on their indicators when we prepare each export plan. They actually made a major contribution to the rise in the percentage of our exports in various goods and materials prepared for exports. An increase of 17.4 percent was achieved over 1979 exports. The exports of these centers constituted 6 percent of the total value of the organization's exports."

We Are Continuing the Implementation of the Export Plan

Afterwards we asked the president of the organization, "Did you carry out your plan fully?" He said, "We are still engaged in implementing our export plan. The employees in the offices of the organization and the agencies which are affiliated with it are giving us good help. They made extraordinary efforts so we can have a better picture. Their efforts stem from the faith they have in the justice of our cause, the affection they have for our leader, the fighting President Saddam Husayn and the faith they have in the principles of the party and the revolution. We have noticed their continued dedication to work, and this promises us a future that abounds with glories. I say this quite frankly: a country that has this kind of men is capable of crushing all enemies, foiling all plans and building its new reality with all the strength and capability [possible]. We congratulate the country for having such men, for they made up for those who are fighting on the battlefields by doubling their efforts and increasing production."

He added, "Therefore, as national production grew because the enthusiasm of employees in the various facilities of the socialist commercial sector was increasing, our just war against the client, backward regime in Iran and at the same time, talents and inclinations of the citizens of our great Iraq. This, besides what is being produced by the tremendous projects which are being carried out by the national development plans, we found that our local markets were well and quite stable, that they had prestige and stability and that they could ensure that all the citizens' living requirements and all the requirements of the development plans are fulfilled. On the basis of this premise also we continued exporting many goods according to the programs and plans that were made so that these goods can find their way to Arab and world markets."

Concluding Pleas and Appointments

The "Al-Bayan" also indicated that our concern for the continued flow of

out goods to foreign markets stems from our commitment and from the fact that we honor our pledges and the agreements we have with foreign importers. "This reflects the reality and the truth of our dealings with the countries of the world. [Our] dealings rely on honoring commercial and economic relations and realizing mutual benefits without allowing politics to have any influence whatsoever."

In concluding his interview he promised our extraordinary historical leadership, chief among whom is the hero of national liberation, the brave knight of the nation, the fighting President Saddam Husayn that [he and his staff] will continue to be loyal soldiers and carry the banner of honor, truth and dignity so that Iraqis and Arabs can continue to hold their head high and be proud of themselves.

8392
CSO: 4404/55

SAUDI ARABIA VIEWED AS GROWING MILITARY THREAT

Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 13 Nov 81 Weekend Supplement pp 1, 20

[Article by Eitan Haber: "Saudi Arabia: A Growing Military Threat"]

[Text] A military giant is growing right in front of Israel's eyes, one which will have to be reckoned with in any future military operation. "It is entirely possible that we will wake up one morning and see Saudis at the window," said an Israeli intelligence person. The potential dangers are frightening: active participation in war, aid to other Arab nations working from Saudi territory, dispatching expeditionary forces, use of Saudi territory as an emergency weapons warehouse, and more.

The average Israeli thinks of Saudi Arabia as a primitive, desert nation which has not yet left the darkness of the Middle Ages. The mere mention of Saudi Arabia in Israel is usually accompanied by mixed images of hands being lopped off and gold Cadillacs. Even if this were true, the fact remains that with kind assistance from the United States, Saudi Arabia is about to change its image, at least in the military sector. The army, which until recently used camels for transportation, will from now on fly AWACS, drive A.M.X. 30 tanks, shoot 155 millimeter cannons and will lack nothing. What the Saudis have or will have is an army man's dream. They can go into an American weapons store and grab all the toys off the shelves, without waiting their turn at the check out counter. Since the Yom Kippur War, the Saudis have signed purchase agreements (for such basics as army bases and roads) amounting to \$50 billion--and they're just beginning.

If we could see the aerial photographs taken this week by Israeli Air Force planes from the skies over the military town of Tabuq in northern Saudi Arabia, it's quite possible that the words, percentages and numbers would take on a frightening reality: row after row of tanks, armored vehicles, trucks, cannons and many private cars (not unlike the parking lots of many reserve bases in Israel). Even now, the Saudi army is characterized by a unique phenomenon, approximated only in Libya: in Saudi Arabia today there are more weapons and military vehicles than the army can use. Travelers coming from Saudi Arabia have said that dozens of A.M.X. 30 tanks are parked in garages collecting dust because they have no crews. To a certain extent, Saudi Arabia is today a weapons warehouse for the Arab world.

Military Towns

It's only fair to note that experience thus far has proven that the military threat presented by the Saudis is less than that from Libya, Morocco or Algeria. In all past wars, except the Sinai Campaign in 1956, the Saudis participated actively with expeditionary forces (in 1948 with three units under Egyptian command; in 1967 with a division fighting in Jordan; in 1973 with a reinforced division in Syria). In all cases the Saudis experienced military defeat.

The Saudi army today numbers 40,000. It is under the minister of defense and aviation with a general staff comprised of four branches--intelligence, manpower, operations and training and logistics. Most of the military units are located in the military town of Tabuq, only 200 kilometers from Eilat. The town merited a once-over this week by the Israeli Air Force. Another portion of the Saudi military units is stationed in the south of the oil kingdom, its purpose, among others, to defend the borders with the Republic of South Yemen and Yemen. Yet another section of military units are permanently positioned in eastern Saudi Arabia, their responsibility being to defend the oil fields and the borders with Iraq.

The Saudi military forces are grouped in large concentrations (which, of course, makes a surprise attack easier, should one desire to engage in such an activity), in a network of "military towns" (somewhat similar, but only somewhat, to our camps with their modest barracks). The soldiers in these Saudi towns work under the shadow of the military command. Today, there are three such towns: Tabuq (in the north), Hamus-Mashit (in the south) and Hafar-Albatin (in the northeast), the construction of which is as yet incomplete.

Expeditionary Forces

Tabuq is the closest and the best known to Israel. It sprawls over an area of more than 80 square kilometers and is organized such that it has, in effect, everything: from installations for maneuvers and logistics warehouses to housing for officers' families and soldiers. The main installation in Tabuq is the Saudi Air Force airfield, just a few minutes flying time from Eilat.

As far as Israel knows to date, the Saudis keep almost two-thirds of their entire forces in Tabuq: at least one mobile unit, a division of infantry, a tank division, two anti-aircraft units, artillery, surface-to-air missiles, air force planes (mostly "Lightnings") and several other units whose number varies according to the situation. It is believed that the Saudi military forces can move extremely rapidly and, under certain conditions, could be moved to the Israel-Jordan border. In any Saudi plan of operation Tabuq can serve as a base of attack against Israel from the kingdom's territory, or to organize and transfer Jordanian units to Syria and Lebanon. It could also serve as a rear headquarters and logistics center for the expeditionary forces.

Are these military threats fundamentally based on the enormous buying power and growing strength of the Saudis in the Middle East? Israeli experts are convinced, based on past experience, that in the event of an outbreak of hostilities between Israel and other Arab nations, the Saudis will take an active role,

perhaps more so than ever before. They can do so using expeditionary forces, as they have in the past. Already, certain Saudi figures have said that they would do just that, should war break out.

Today, more so than in the past, there is a great likelihood of Saudi participation in war, from the kingdom's own territory. Until the final withdrawal from the Sinai, the Saudis can operate from Tabuq or other points along the shores of the Sinai Peninsula, particularly with airforce planes, special forces and seacraft. Saudi Arabia can also allow other Arab nations to use its territory as a takeoff base. Following the withdrawal from the Sinai, in April 1982, Saudi Arabia will be able to conduct military operations principally against the southern regions around Eilat, but its air force can go much further, deep within the State of Israel. Anti-aircraft artillery can make the activities of the Israeli Air Force in the south and the Straits area much more difficult.

Another possibility for military operations which would make things difficult for Israel would be the allocation of Saudi Arabia's plentiful and sophisticated military equipment to other Arab nations, for use against Israel. In a situation like that, Saudi Arabia would act as a reserve general staff for the Arab armies which might lose large quantities of expensive equipment in another war with Israel. Saudi Arabia would then be an emergency warehouse of sorts.

The threat from the Saudis is present even in peaceful times. They can provide other Arab armies with equipment from the West to see what potential it has, and to work out any problems. They can provide other Arab intelligence forces with the information coming in from the "AWACS" looking into Israel's bedrooms. These operations can be integrated with the military activities of other armies (although it should be noted that there are significant difficulties inherent in interarmy cooperation). In one way or another, a military giant is growing right in front of Israel's eyes. It will have to be reckoned with in any future operation, until the Saudis reconsider the statement published in one of their newspapers: "The Israelis should be recognized--in their graves...."

7-11
CSJ: 4423/63

BRIEFS

DEFENSE IMPORTS--In the first half of this year, Israel's defense imports increased 75 percent and reached \$1 billion, compared with \$600 million for the same period last year. This fact, in addition to a \$265 billion increase in civil imports, created a 21 percent increase in Israel's trade deficit. The deficit for the first 6 months of 1981 reached \$2.1 billion, compared with \$1.7 billion for the same period last year. Foreign debts rose \$800 million in the first semester of the year and the total debt by the end of June had reached \$22.2 billion. The Bureau of Statistics established that foreign currency reserves in the Bank of Israel today would cover only 2.9 months of imports. In mid-1980, these reserves were enough to cover 3.2 months. One-way currency transfers into the economy for the period in question amounted to \$1.825 billion, 50 percent greater than last year, this based mostly on government income from foreign aid. [Text] [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Nov 81 p 10] 9811]

IDF APPOINTMENT--Colonel Ya'akov Hartabi has been appointed military commander of Judea and Samaria in anticipation of a division of military and civil authority. Professor Menachem Millson of the Hebrew University was named head of the civil administration. Colonel Hartabi will handle ongoing security matters for Judea and Samaria. Prior to this appointment, he was district commander of Nablus. In his stead, Lt Colonel Freddie Zek, previously governor of Hebron, was appointed. Plans are now being made to separate security functions from the civil administration in other districts as well. Meanwhile, the military governors fulfill both functions. [Text] [Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 22 Nov 81 p 3] 9811

MERKAVA INSTRUCTOR TRAINING--In the armored school these days, a unique course is being conducted to train women as Merkava tank instructors. Until now, only a few women in the IDF had been trained on these tanks and only after undergoing training courses on other tanks did they receive this additional training. The training of women in the armored corps is now in high gear. The success of these courses has induced many women to ask for this special type of service upon their arrival at receiving and classification camps. Female soldiers take these courses after special instruction provided during basic training, including courses intended to increase self-confidence so they can meet the high and exacting demands of the training courses. During the course itself, the women receive physical training and lessons in target practice, driving, maintenance

and familiarization with the tank. Following the basic training section each soldier enters a specialized field in keeping with her skills. It is in this field that she will later serve as an instructor or as a commander. The female soldiers are trained by both male and female instructors from the armored corps school. In the instructors' corps there is even a female training officer. [Text] [Tel Aviv BAMAHA in Hebrew 11 Nov 81 p 5] 9811

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LEBANON

REACTIONS TO, IMPLICATIONS OF AL-SADAT'S DEATH DISCUSSED

Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 22 Oct 81 p 8

[Article by 'Abd-al-Rahman Munaymanah: "Implications of al-Sadat's Assassination and of the Change in Egypt for Lebanon; Phalangists Expected the Assassination after al-Jumayyil's Visit to United States; Official and Popular Lebanon Optimistic about Positive Change"]

[Text] The initial reaction leaders of the Lebanese Front had to the death of the president of the Egyptian regime, Anwar al-Sadat was one of not expecting any dramatic changes for Husni Mubarak's regime. Mubarak had affirmed that he would abide by the alliance with the United States and with Israel and that he would continue the Camp David policy.

Leaders of the Lebanese Front, especially President Camille Sham'un and Bashir al-Jumayyil, attribute this expectation to a prevailing belief in their midst. They believe that what has been taking place recently in Egypt has not been unbeknownst to the United States and that the arrangements and measures that were made following the departure of al-Sadat were also not unbeknownst to it. These arrangements and measures will be utilized to continue the U.S. course which will not be affected by the absence of one person and his replacement by another.

Therefore, President Sham'un and Bashir al-Jumayyil are saying that they were expecting the removal of al-Sadat from the Middle East scene. The president of the National Liberal party shared [his thoughts on] this possibility with his close associates months ago "because Egyptian, Arab and international indications were affirming that al-Sadat had come up against an impenetrable wall."

Bashir al-Jumayyil is also reported to have said that during his recent visit to Washington he sensed that the U.S. administration was impatient with al-Sadat's policy and position. When al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut, he indicated on one of the occasions that "something" may happen in Egypt, specifically the assassination of al-Sadat.

Leaders of the Lebanese Front are cautious about "giving any impressions

about what may happen in the Middle East area, especially in Lebanon, as a result of al-Sadat's absence [from the scene], even though they affirm that the American course and, accordingly, the Camp David policy continue to be evident in the conduct of the Egyptian regime.

Another prevailing conviction in the Lebanese National Movement is that the United States was actually surprised by the assassination of Anwar al-Sadat in Egypt. The U.S. reaction showed quite clearly that this surprise was unexpected.

The National Movement believes that the Egyptian opposition, which clashed recently with the assassinated president, was made to come out in the Egyptian army through the assassination operation that was carried out by a group of military men during the 6 October military parade.

The National Movement also thinks that the slogans which were called out by the Egyptian soldiers who attacked al-Sadat's stand, "Glory to Egypt, you clients," reveal the fact that those people's backgrounds had nothing to do with the Muslim Brothers who would usually come up with religious slogans on such occasions.

Therefore, the National Movement believes that existing Egyptian authorities are throwing a heavy cloud [of secrecy] around the number and inclinations of the soldiers who carried out the operation. Along with authorities in the United States, Egyptian authorities were quick to consider the group [of assassins] religious fanatics, totally isolated from the broad opposition movement in Egypt.

The National Movement ponders a few points about the investigation, points that were leaked by Egyptian authorities. These pertain especially to the fact that the leader of the assault team was able to replace soldiers with civilians who carried out the assassination. The National Movement believes that none of this hides the fact that the government in Egypt realizes that there are military powers to contend with behind this group and that they are also spread in the opposition.

Therefore, the National Movement thinks that the firm security measures which accompanied al-Sadat's funeral affirm that what happened in Egypt was not something ordinary. The movement thinks that what happened in Egypt will bring about a change that could be fundamental to the status of the Egyptian regime and to its course in the area. Al-Sadat's assassination and the U.S. and Israeli reaction to it will cause a resurgence of patriotism in Egypt, especially in the armed forces and among the Egyptian people. In one way or another this may end the policy which al-Sadat had pursued since he signed the Camp David accords.

The National Movement is cautious about making any predictions about the course of events on the Arab scene on the basis of these expectations. Accordingly, it is cautious about predicting the effects of those events on the Lebanese scene "because it would be premature to trace the implications of such changes."

On the basis of Husni Mubarak's assertion that the course of al-Sadat will be pursued, a leading political figure wonders, "Will Mubarak be able to follow the course of al-Sadat in the absence of al-Sadat himself?"

The leading politician responds [to his own question] by saying that ever since his visit to Jerusalem in 1977 al-Sadat had been drawing on his long record of service which began when he was one of the Free Officers and continued till his venture into the 1973 October war. The question that comes up then is this: What by comparison is Husni Mubarak's record?

The leading politician believes that this comparison is significant because al-Sadat used to reassure Israel, on the basis of his personal record, that he would be able to offer it more concessions during that period until the date for the last phase of Camp David was to be carried out. Mubarak does not have such a record. Consequently, Israel will not be able to pursue with him the last phase of the evacuation from Sinai.

The leading politician believes that without change in the Egyptian political course, it will be highly unlikely, if not absolutely impossible, for any country to resume relations with Egypt. The replacement of one person [by another] is not enough, especially since al-Sadat had failed in a position that was rejected by Arabs. It is consequently unlikely for any Arab regime to extend its hand to "a successor" who insists on the same position.

One also cannot ignore the prevailing belief that the capabilities of al-Sadat's course were depleted when al-Sadat was assassinated. Observers, especially foreign observers understood that al-Sadat no longer had anything to offer Israel in return for what he was asking of Israel in the context of completing the implementation of the Camp David accords.

The leading politician says that even if Israel were to carry out its remaining pledges in accordance with Camp David, Zionist officials will be exposed to Israeli public opinion. Therefore, with the failure of the normalization of relations, the leaders of Israel will appear to have offered concessions without getting anything in return.

Observers were inclined to think that Israel would not have been willing to carry out the remaining pledges it made in connection with Camp David next ... had al-Sadat been alive. Will her position be otherwise now with Husni Mubarak?

The leading politician says, "If this anticipated outcome in April were clear in the days of al-Sadat, it is now inevitable in Mubarak's administration. Hence arises the question: Why then doesn't Husni Mubarak change the course? This question is preceded by another one: What change? That is, ... Mubarak declare that he is disassociating himself from Camp David?

A likely response to that question is that Mubarak will not be able to take such a step because such a step would pose the threat that Israel may ... that as an excuse to take back everything it had offered, including the

withdrawal from Sinai. At any rate this is what foreign observers expect in such a case."

In the same context these observers think that Mubarak cannot give up in advance his request that Israel carry out its final withdrawal from Sinai next April even though he knows for certain that Israel has no intention of carrying this out.

Therefore, it is expected that until further notice Mubarak will continue to amend al-Sadat's policy without touching the Camp David accords or their substance.

Observers abroad expect that the change in Egyptian policy may be focused on aspects of al-Sadat's policy and may sidestep the boundaries of Camp David in despair and resignation.

The leading politician believes that the most important aspects of this policy are three. They are:

1. The position on the settlements.
2. The fate of Jerusalem.
3. The matter of Palestinian representation.

Observers state that al-Sadat went too far in overlooking the measures for the establishment of settlements. Israel has continued to establish settlements in the West Bank even though at least the declared Camp David accords do not give it the right to do so.

Al-Sadat also accepted the situation that Israel pursued regarding Jerusalem despite the fact that Camp David contained no stipulations supporting the Israeli position. It is known that the matter of Jerusalem is dear to Arabs, Muslims and Christians and that the change introduced by Israel in the legal status of Jerusalem was opposed and condemned by almost the whole world. The United Nations has repeatedly affirmed that these Israeli measures were illegal.

As far as Palestinian representation in the autonomy talks is concerned, al-Sadat conceded under Israeli pressure and abandoned the PLO. He did not have to do that in accordance with the Camp David accords.

Therefore, based on the judgments of observers the leading politician believes that when the time is right, Husni Mubarak will gradually declare specific positions on these three matters so that his positions can be distinguished from those of al-Sadat. He would thus open a new small window to parts of the Arab world. This is what westerners expect, and this is what U.S. officials are stating, especially in the recent statement made by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

Officially, official Lebanon is interacting with the post-al-Sadat phase

and it is taking it seriously on the basis of new factors that may be possible and that may emerge on both the Arab and Lebanese scenes vis a vis both the Arab and Lebanese crises. The future of both crises had for a long time been linked with the policy of the late Egyptian president.

Prominent government sources in Lebanon are saying that Lebanon has drawn up a chronology of actions that are directed to these new factors and that it will begin carrying them out at the proper time and the proper place without any complications. Lebanon will avoid any sensitivities, especially since the stage is a crucial one, on the one hand, and since, one cannot be apathetic regarding these developments which may outline the features of the solutions for both the Lebanese and Middle East crises.

The question that is being raised now is this: What steps will the government take and what contacts will it make according to the chronology it has set?

Informed sources are saying that four actions are inevitable because they ultimately come in the context of a sequence that would guarantee the common interests of the Lebanese, the Palestinians and the Arabs in any solution that may be drafted for both crises inside or outside the Arab group.

First, the first step of this action will be one towards Lebanese-Palestinian relations which must enter a new phase so that clear and unequivocal lines can be drawn to define the functions of the lawful government and to bring about the government's authority and sovereignty.

The action also outlines what the Palestinian Resistance must do to gain its legitimate rights in accordance with its convictions and its choices, without any pressure or coercion from anybody, especially since Lebanon has always been the actual supporter of the Palestinian Resistance. Lebanon has hosted the Palestinian Resistance, and it has taken international diplomatic action for the Palestinian cause.

Official sources are saying, however, that neither the Lebanese government nor the Palestinian Resistance will have the plan of action that is required at this stage in particular unless the foundations of the new factors and changes that will come into the crisis of the area and unless the political course that will be adopted by the existing regime in Egypt in the post-al-Sadat period become clear.

Second, Lebanese-Syrian action: A prominent government source is saying that action in this regard is likely to undergo change. He says that despite continued direct or indirect communications with Damascus and despite the fact that these communications were never interrupted, today, after al-Sadat's assassination, they are likely to be renewed in accordance with the given factors that will thrust themselves on the course of the Middle East crisis during the administration of Husni Mubarak.

In this regard the government source says that the Lebanese-Syrian summit which he spoke about may thrust itself on the scene in the near future.

Some people are predicting that it may be held before the expanded Arab Summit that is to be held in al-Rabat on the 25th of the following month [November 1981]. This is because the reasons and the motives that require convening such a bilateral summit are important. They may be summarized as follows:

A. Syria's military and political role in Lebanon is one that cannot be ignored in any step the government wishes to take regarding the changes that may take place.

B. Lebanon and Syria are pursuing the same course and the same policy in rejecting the Camp David agreement.

It is therefore assumed that they will have the same attitude toward the changes that will come about in the Camp David policy, perhaps in the near future.

C. Lebanon and Syria have similar positions on the questions that are pending in front of the Arab League, questions that may be of considerable or of little interest to the Arabs. Therefore, the bilateral Lebanese-Syrian summit may force itself [on the scene] so that Syria and Lebanon can stay in step with these rapid developments and go to the Rabat Summit with a united point of view.

D. President Sarkis, who has relied on the Syrian role in Lebanon ever since he became president, will not relinquish this course close to the end of his term.

Quite the contrary, these sources think it more likely that he will continue to rely on Syria now even more than he did before and until he turns over the office to his successor in the next administration.

Third, regarding Lebanese-Arab action, informed sources are saying that the present government in Lebanon relied on an Arab role in Lebanon. This was evident in the consensus achieved by President Sarkis and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan who agreed that it was necessary to find an Arab solution to the Lebanese crisis. This was manifested in the Arab Follow-Up Committee which was made up of Arab ministers of foreign affairs who represent the Arab consensus. This too is what the government is relying on despite the fact that the Follow-Up Committee has not yet been able to extricate the Lebanese crisis from the complications, problems, ambiguities and accordingly, excesses in which it has been drowning.

Prominent government sources believe that Lebanese action on the Arab scene is continuing. The evidence for this lies in the fact that President Sarkis and Prime Minister al-Wazzan are trying to convene a meeting at the presidential palace in the next few days for the ambassadors who represent the Arab Follow-Up Committee. They want to deliberate the new factors and steps that are to be achieved before next 7 November. This is when Beirut will host the ministers of foreign affairs of the Follow-Up Committee as well as the secretary general of the Arab League. They will draw up for the

committee a new plan of action that is inspired by the new factors that have come upon the scene and that are supposed to come upon the scene from now till then.

This government source adds that although the subject of inquiry pertains to the situation in Lebanon, Lebanese and Arab officials have not chosen to be blind to the reality of overcoming existing new conditions in the area. Quite the contrary they will begin their research with the assassination of President al-Sadat and the developments and changes that are to ensue.

Fourth, toward Lebanese-international action: In this regard Lebanon began taking energetic diplomatic action, especially with fraternal and friendly countries. The action which is being taken by diplomatic delegations that are authorized in Arab and international capitals is not confined to ambassadors. Senior government officials are prepared to take action at the appropriate time if circumstances require such action so that opportunities that serve Lebanon's interests and the interests, permanence, independence and safety of the country can be seized.

Sources in Lebanon's Ministry of Foreign Affairs indicate that diplomatic action is confined now to gathering information that pertains to the course of these developments. This involves the government in all the new factors, and it would thus not be taken back by any step that may be unexpected and may not be in the interests of Lebanon, such as al-Sadat's surprise visit to Jerusalem. That visit had taken Lebanese and Arab officials in all their countries by surprise even though that step had been outlined many months before [in communications] between Cairo, Washington and Tel Aviv, and none of the Arab officials knew about it.

The prominent government source says that as long as Lebanon and the Arab countries are caught in the path of the winds of sweeping changes in the area after the assassination of al-Sadat, Arab kings and presidents are powerless except in two matters:

1. They can continue to track the new factors.
2. They can continue deliberations among each other to take steps that would preserve the course of the Arab consensus, on the one hand, and the interests of the Arab countries on the other. It is feared that this stream of changes will break up the Arab rank and divide it into alliances and camps through which those who concoct solutions abroad can impose those solutions without facing any objective Arab opposition that can amend these solutions, gleaning from them what is suitable and rejecting everything that is evil and inappropriate to their interests. Although Lebanon has come up with a plan of action, this action will not begin and will not be feasible or effective unless Lebanon coordinates it with Arab parties. This coordination is to begin with the PLO and to include Syria and all the Arabs. Lebanon's action will not be feasible or effective unless Lebanon tracks the new conditions whose steps must be observed by Lebanon and by all concerned Arabs as well.

Although al-Sadat's assassination took Arab officials by surprise, it is feared that sudden political steps may be even more surprising especially since official talks with Husni Mubarak around the destiny and future of the crisis in the area began in Cairo even before al-Sadat was buried.

In view of this fact officials expect Arab countries to break down the action they expect to take into two steps:

--They may convene a summit meeting for the Steadfastness and Opposition countries so that their position on new developments on the Egyptian scene can be defined and the new stage can be confronted.

--They will emphasize that the Arab Summit Conference is to be convened on schedule next November in Rabat.

Sources add that while waiting for all these developments and new factors, which have come upon the situation in the Middle East through the changes that are occurring on the Egyptian scene, Lebanese officials are trying to monitor the situation carefully. They are following it closely through information and facts that become available to Lebanon's diplomats.

The prevailing belief among officials, however, seems to be one of optimism. Officials are optimistic about the future of conditions and their effects on the Lebanese scene. This optimism is based on what President Ilyas Sarkis said at the beginning of the recent meeting of the Council of Ministers. President Sarkis expressed the hope that the Camp David policy will fail after al-Sadat's departure. He hoped that Arab solidarity will be restored because the need for that has become urgent so that both the Palestinian and the Lebanese questions can be strengthened.

A prominent minister in the government explains this official optimism by making the following points:

1. Lebanon, which has endured the disasters and the plans of Camp David, will not endure from now on more than it has endured regardless of conditions and difficulties.
2. Al-Sadat's departure means there will be a new situation in the Middle East area. It is hoped that this new situation will be more in line with the aspirations of the Lebanese and Arab people than the previous situation was.
3. The United States and the Soviet Union, which began a dialogue about difficult international problems in the world, will find an opportunity in al-Sadat's absence to attempt expediting solutions for the crisis of the area now that developments in the crisis have approached the danger zone which, if exceeded, will pose a threat to international security and peace.

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STATISTICS ON POSTAL SERVICE DETAILED

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 29 Oct 81 p 3

[Article by Jalal al-Khatib: "Detailed Statistics for Postal Services Make Clear the High Increases in Volume of Mail"]

[Text] The Ministry of Post, Telephone and Telegraph has issued complete and detailed statistics regarding its accomplishments with regard to postal services in all the provinces of the kingdom, some eight postal districts.

These statistics indicate that the size of the postal service in 1980 amounted to 401.58 million incoming and outgoing pieces of mail, compared to 359.22 million pieces in 1979, i.e., an increase of 11.8 percent.

The statistics prove that the size of the postal service is constantly increasing, as a result of the increasing volume of correspondence exchanged especially with foreign countries. This confirms the growth in all economic sectors in the kingdom, and the increased communication with the world.

With regard to the Western Province, the total incoming and outgoing mail was, for 1980, 146.11 million compared to 130.03 million the previous year, an increase of 12.4 percent.

The total of incoming and outgoing mail for the Central Province for 1980 was 124.586 million compared to 110.372 million in 1979, an increase of 12.9 percent. In the Eastern Province, the total was 55.634 million, an increase of 14.5 percent.

The total for the Medina Province, for both incoming and outgoing mail, was 26.256 million, compared to 24.912 million, an increase of 5.4 percent. The total for the Southern Province was 15.264 million in 1980, compared to 13.585 million articles in 1979. This was an increase of 1.679 million articles, or 12.4 percent.

The incoming and outgoing total for al-Qasim Province for all postal articles for 1980 was 16.344 million, compared to 15.271 million in 1979, an increase of 7 percent. The 1980 total for the Northern Province was 11.123 million, compared to 10.773 million in 1979, an increase of 457,000 articles or 4 percent.

The incoming and outgoing total for Jizan Province, for all articles in 1980, was 6.166 million compared to 5.686 million articles in 1979, an increase of 8.4 percent.

SAUDI ARABIA

CHANGES AFFECTING COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION LAWS PLANNED

Riyadh AL-RIYADH in Arabic 4 Nov 81 p 3

[Article by Sultan al-Baz'i: "Ministry of Commerce Ends Problem of Commercial Registration; Small Commercial Businesses To Be Granted Permit To Operate Instead of Registration; Automated Accounting To Permit One Number for Registering a Commercial Firm and Its Branches"]

[Text] The Ministry of Commerce has issued new regulations for commercial registration. In accordance with them, the requirement for a number of small commercial businesses to obtain commercial registration to pursue their business has been abolished. These businesses will only need to obtain a license to do business from the appropriate authorities. The list of businesses that will not be required to register include bakeries, restaurants, auto repair shops, small commercial shops, etc. These businesses will be required to obtain a permit to practice its trade from certain authorities concerned, such as municipalities and civil defense.

Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-Zamil, the deputy minister of commerce, told AL-RIYADH that this regulation would help to confine the granting of commercial registration to those actual commercial businesses that are required to pursue import-export operations. He added that this would take a heavy burden off the ministry and enable it to pursue those activities that serve the commercial movement in the kingdom.

Dr Zamil added that the ministry was currently working on installing an automated accounting system, preparatory to making it general in all the ministry's branches throughout the kingdom. This system will share in reducing the number of commercial registrations granted to businessmen, since each commercial business will be granted one commercial registration for the main headquarters and for any number of branches that it opens throughout the kingdom, instead of each branch having a separate commercial registration, as is the case now.

The automated accounting system will begin operating in Riyadh after completion of installation. It will then be extended to the rest of the ministry's branches.

On the other hand, the ministry is now moving to abolish commercial registrations, as a result of the decree issued by the ministry, compelling merchants to write their names on public signs of their organization and on official company stamps.

EXPANSION OF MEDICAL AIRPLANES PROGRAM PLANNED

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 3 Nov 81 p 2

[Article by Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahid: "Medical Airplanes To Number 15 Soon, To Double in the Next 5-Year Plan"]

[Text] Maj Gen Ridha Hasan Khalifah, director general of medical services told 'UKAZ that, during the next few months, the number of air medical services aircraft, currently available, will be increased to 15, and also that this number will be doubled in the next five-year plan.

He said that a medical evacuation section for air medical services had been established in Medical Services. A year ago, integrated air medical units were set up for disaster relief, such as auto accidents and fires, as well as to rescue some victims of serious diseases. These aircraft are equipped with all modern medical equipment.

Emergency Air Ambulances

Maj Gen Ridha Hasan added that the medical aircraft were designed on the basis that they function as emergency air ambulances. They are like flying hospitals. It is possible for two surgical operations to be performed simultaneously in the C-130 aircraft.

It can transport seven patients, and the operation can be done in the air or inside the aircraft on the ground.

10 Airplanes for Medical Services

His excellency said that the kingdom currently has 10 aircraft for air medical services, 2 each in the Central Province, the Western Province, the Eastern Province, the Northern Province and the Southern Province. There is also a C-2 medical aircraft that carries a small hospital, but the C-130 is a little larger. A C-3 airplane will soon be provided, on the orders of Prince Sultan Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the minister of defense and aviation.

Field Surgery

The director general for medical services made it clear that a C-130 aircraft can land anywhere, inside or outside of the kingdom, at the scene of the accident so that emergency operations can be performed. It would then transport the patients to the nearest hospital. A number of specialists have been trained for this purpose.

However, his excellency pointed out that this airplane is used to transport serious cases from one place to another, and is equipped with the most efficient medical equipment. The kingdom intends to purchase another C-130 airplane, whose mission will be to transport a number of patients in serious condition.

Maj Gen Ridha Hasan said that these airplanes can be expeditiously moved on many occasions. Therefore, "I think that another fast airplane should be obtained in order to help transport those patients who do not require a bed on the aircraft."

His excellency was accompanied by a Saudi press and media delegation on an inspection tour of the air medical services aircraft, or flying hospitals.

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FOUR SPECIALIZED HOSPITALS TO OPEN SOON

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 22 Oct 81 p 2

[Article by Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahid and Muhammad al-Khadhri: "Four Specialized Hospitals in the Riyadh Medical Complex"]

[Text] At the end of the celebration, Prince Salman Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz announced that His Majesty King Khalid Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was in excellent health, and he said that the king enjoyed excellent health, thanks be to God. The king had entered the hospital merely for the usual tests, and he had been reassured about the king's health.

Aside from that, Prince Salman praised the pediatrics course given by the Ministry of Health. He said that it has given the specialized doctor new information and studies in the home itself. His highness expressed his delight at seeing the number of Saudi citizens and others who have contracted to work in this country, all of whom graduated after taking a special diploma in this course. Prince Salman said that the large medical complex that will be built in Riyadh will have some 1,400 beds and will be divided into 4 specialized hospitals. His highness added that the complex was in the competitive bidding stage at the present time.

The Governor of Riyadh indicated that the hospital will be built south of Riyadh and has the crown prince's approval. He added that the Ministry of Health is in the process of preparing to build it. Moreover, there is a specialized hospital of ophthalmology which will be opened soon. His highness stressed that all these projects and actions are under the sponsorship of his majesty the king and are being closely watched by the crown prince. Regarding the clinics that will be established in Riyadh, and the difficulties that the Ministry of Health is facing in obtaining the required land, his highness said that this problem had been resolved between the Ministry of Health and the Supreme Commission for Riyadh Development in several meetings. The land for the southern district hospital in Riyadh will be obtained very soon, close to Manfuhah. Additionally, the same applies to land for the clinics that will be established in all quarters of Riyadh.

Prince Salman Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had opened the graduation ceremony for the first class of the pediatrics diploma program. This was held yesterday evening at the Intercontinental Hotel in Riyadh. The course was organized by the Ministry of

Health, in cooperation with the University of Edinburgh and the Medical College of Riyadh University. The number of doctors graduating from this course was 18.

The ceremony began with a reading from the Koran, followed by a speech by Dr Husayn al-Jaza'iri, the minister of health, in which he welcomed the presence of Prince Salman and praised the interest which the government of King Khalid Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and his crown prince, has shown toward health services, which are aimed at helping the people of this country. He said that the umbrella of health services had been extended over all parts of the kingdom.

In his speech, the minister of health reviewed the efforts made by the ministry in the field of providing specialized medical workers to fill the increasing needs for medical services. He announced that the ophthalmologic hospital, presented by his majesty the king as a gift to his loyal people, would be in operation during the second half of the current fiscal year. Its capacity is 363 beds. He said that it would be put into operation in stages, beginning with 50 beds. The minister of health also reviewed the continuous development of the Ministry of Health's principal facilities in Riyadh during the period from 1977 through 1981, referring to Riyadh Central Hospital and the Maternity and Children's Hospital. He said that the number of beds in Riyadh Central Hospital had jumped from 400 in 1977 to 800 in 1981. This still leaves 100 beds to go, since the hospital's capacity will be 900. The number of beds in the Maternity and Childrens' Hospital also jumped from 320 to 630 beds in 1981, 150 additional beds will be added.

The minister of health went on to say that 500 new beds are in the process of being added at the present time, to raise the level of health services in the Central Province. These are represented by new hospitals in al-Kharj, 200 beds, as well as al-Majma'ah, 'Afif and al-Aflaj, each of which will have a capacity of 100 beds. In addition, there are 98 clinics and 54 health centers.

Dr 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Suwaylim, the director of the course, spoke on this occasion, followed by a speech by the supervisor of the program, Professor John Forfar. The graduation speech was delivered by Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sulayfih.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Prince Salman Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Dr Husayn al-Jaza'iri distributed the diplomas to the graduates. The ceremony was attended by Shaykh Turki al-Sudayri, chief of the General Secretariat for Civil Services, senior officials of the Ministry of Health, the directors of Riyadh's hospitals, and a number of workers in the medical field.

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

NEW FIVE-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN DISCUSSED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 231, 5-11 Oct 81 p 36

[Article: "A Five-Year Development Plan: Arabizing the Population, Diversifying Production"]

[Text] After 2 consecutive years of studies in which all the ministries in the United Arab Emirates took part, the Ministry of Planning completed the first 5-Year Plan for comprehensive economic and social development. The plan covers the period from 1981 to 1985.

The general framework of the plan notes an increase in national revenues, from 98.7 billion dirhams in 1980 to 125.4 billion dirhams in 1985. The plan also noted an increase in average per capita income from 95,000 dirhams per year in 1980 to 120,500 dirhams in 1985.

The plan's principal focus is on human resources, the basic point of weakness in a number of Gulf countries that have high incomes and a low population density. In addition, the plan also focuses on diversifying the sources of income. Until today there has been one source of income, and this is the second weak point in the economies of these societies.

To ensure development of the human element the plan sought [to bring about] major expansion in all the various levels of education and to establish a large number of schools and institutes. In addition, the plan gave special attention to the preservation of the national character of the population makeup and the Arab identity of society so that the population increase that would be realized in the years of the plan would be restricted to citizens and would not include people coming from abroad. There would be an effort to change the makeup of the work force so that the new work force would include a growing percentage of the national work force and so that there would be an increase in the percentage of citizens who hold sensitive and principal positions, especially in the oil sectors. [The plan also calls for] an overall increase in the percentage of citizens to the total population.

The Ministry of Planning in the Emirates summarized the general objectives of the first 5-Year plan as follows:

--Satisfying the largest measure possible of a person's material and moral needs and developing that person's capability to pursue his positive and creative role in the development process.

--The need for manpower is to be tied to the requirements of development.

--Human resources are to be modernized and developed, and growth in the population and in the work force is to be encouraged by preparing the conditions and the factors that ensure its realization.

--Natural resources are to be preserved and developed, and the base of production is to be expanded by raising growth rates in the non-oil sectors of production and concentrating on the conversion industries as is appropriate to the state's economic characteristics.

--Food security is to be realized by producing the maximum agricultural goods and products locally to achieve the greatest measure of self-sufficiency possible in food and by increasing the capacity for storing these goods.

--Conditions for relatively balanced economic and social development between the emirates are to be provided in a context of coordination and integration. Duplication is to be avoided, and the national wealth is to be protected from being wasted and squandered. Local financing is to be provided.

--Public consumption is to be guided, and general budgets are to be used as one of the tools for realizing a just distribution [of income] among income bracket groups; for alleviating the sharp effects of inflation; and for providing incentives to promote production efficiency and performance rates.

--The monetary surplus available abroad to the state is to be put to the best possible use. Investments are to be steered into productive channels to ward off the danger of the effects of international financial and economic fluctuations and to guarantee the greatest return in increasing national revenue and diversifying its sources.

--The standard of performance and efficiency in the state's administrative agency is to be raised to ensure that these agencies will do their part efficiently and capably to bring about the general objectives [of the plan].

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